

MILITARY

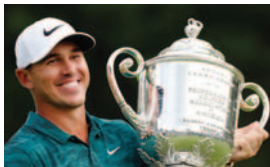
Mattis calls for return of war-trophy church bells to the Philippines

Page 4

PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Koepka holds off Woods to win 3rd major title in 2 years

Back page



FACES

Casey Affleck addresses questions about past harassment allegations

Page 17

Korean leaders to hold 3rd summit in Pyongyang next month » Page 2

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'It's gaining momentum'

Officials: Work on future Marine Corps Base Guam moving forward

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

DEDEDO, Guam — Driving north on Route 3 toward the site of the yet-to-be-built Marine Corps Base Guam, signs of construction are everywhere. Workers clearing land and signs warning of detours because of unexploded ordnance are common sights.

The U.S. Pacific island territory is undergoing an \$8.7 billion metamorphosis that will see about 4,000 Okinawa-based Marines relocate here in the mid-2020s. About \$3 billion of the cost is being picked by the Japanese government.

While no firm date has been set for the massive project's completion — a fact criticized last year by the Government Accountability Office in Washington — U.S. military

leaders on Guam say they've overcome significant challenges to keep things on track since ground was broken.

"It is clearly moving forward," said Capt. Daniel Turner, commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas. "We're in the early stages of the main base ... There are a lot of very senior leaders that are, I think, pleased with where we're going because we are showing actual progress with clearing this site, and I think it's gaining momentum ... so it's great to see."

Seeing shovels in the ground has also pleased officials from Japan's Ministry of Defense, Turner said. A nearly \$165 million contract — paid by the Japanese government — for site preparation and utilities was awarded last summer to Granite-Obayashi, a joint venture based in Watsonville, Calif.

Turner said workers are clearing out the

jungle and disposing of World War II-era munitions ahead of nearly 60 projects. Construction on unaccompanied barracks, which will be the first piece built, is about two years away. While the barracks go up, the rest of the site will be cleared and prepped.

There is also steady progress being made on a \$28.5 million contract for power upgrades for the new base. That work is expected to be completed in 2020.

The Marine Corps' Asia-Pacific realignment was born out of massive protests after the 1995 rape of a 12-year-old Okinawan girl by two Marines and a sailor.

Okinawans demanded the closure of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma due to safety concerns in a densely packed urban area and sought a smaller U.S. military footprint on the southern island prefecture.

SEE GUAM ON PAGE 3

An \$18 million waterfront headquarters is expected to be completed next year on Guam and a \$56.7 million outpatient facility by 2020.

Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Mattis defends his reversal on Space Force

By ROBERT BURNS
Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil — U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Sunday he is satisfied that creating a Space Force as a separate military service is the right way to reorganize the Pentagon's approach to space.

Mattis, who last year opposed moves in Congress to create a separate space service, said his emphasis then was on establishing a consensus about what the Pentagon's space problem is before recommending a way to fix it.

"I was not against setting up a Space Force," he told reporters flying with him to Brazil to begin his first tour of South America as defense secretary. "What I was against was rushing to do that before we could define the problem [that needed solving]."

That, he said, is why he pushed back against efforts in Congress to create a Space Force. In a letter to Rep. Mike Turner, an Ohio Republican, in July 2017, Mattis wrote, "I do not wish to add a separate service that would likely present a narrower and even parochial approach to space operations."

Mattis' comments Sunday were his first since Vice President Mike Pence announced on Thursday that the Trump administration would push for creation of the Space Force as a sixth, separate military service by 2020.

SEE MATTIS ON PAGE 4

'I was not against setting up a Space Force. What I was against was rushing to do that before we could define the problem [that needed solving].'

Jim Mattis
U.S. defense secretary

PACIFIC

Korean leaders plan 3rd summit next month

By KIM GAMEL
AND YOO KYONG CHANG
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korean President Moon Jae-in will travel to Pyongyang next month for his third summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, officials announced Monday, a move that could boost stalled nuclear negotiations.

Talks between the North and the United States have deadlocked amid allegations of foot-dragging by both sides on efforts to implement an agreement to “totally denuclearize” the divided peninsula, with little progress since the June 12 summit between Kim and President Donald Trump.

The topic is likely to be high on the agenda of the upcoming inter-Korean meeting as Moon has played a key role in bringing Washington and Pyongyang together and keeping them at the table.

Moon and Kim first met in the truce village of Panmunjom on April 27 and agreed to improve relations and pursue denuclearization.

They also held a surprise meeting in Panmunjom in late May, but that was mainly focused on getting plans for the unprecedented U.S.-North Korean summit back on track.

The Korean leaders had already agreed to meet in Pyongyang in the fall but left it to senior officials to hammer out the details on Monday.

“We agreed to hold an inter-Korean summit within September in Pyongyang,” according to a joint statement issued after the meeting on the North Korean side of Panmunjom, which straddles the heavily fortified border.

The brief statement added that the delegates — led by South Korean Unification Minister Cho Myoung-gyon and senior North Korean official Ri Son Gwon — also reviewed the implementation of agree-



Courtesy of the Joint Press Corps

Senior North Korean official Ri Son Gwon, left, shakes hands with South Korean Unification Minister Cho Myoung-gyon in the truce village of Panmunjom on Monday.

ments made during the April 27 meeting “in a sincere manner on matters related to more active enforcement.”

It did not give a specific date, but a presidential spokesman later said the meeting would probably be in the second half of the month.

Kim Eui-kyeom told reporters that the date would be up to North Korea as the host, but it would be difficult to arrange it for early September “considering realistic conditions,” according to the Yonhap News Agency.

Details about the agenda were not provided, but the two leaders could be expected

to follow up on their earlier promises to pursue a formal end to the 1950-53 war and eventually replace the armistice with a permanent peace treaty.

The United States, which maintains some 28,500 troops in the South and was a main signatory to the armistice, has resisted the idea without progress on the nuclear front.

Christopher Green, an analyst with the International Crisis Group, wrote in a tweet that the issue was “another gap-widener” between the two allies and the new summit plans were “bound to put pressure on Seoul in this regard.”

Moon, who is eager to maintain stability on the divided peninsula, has been caught in the middle as he tries to balance the need to maintain a strong alliance with the United States while seeking to improve inter-Korean relations.

The rival nations have held several rounds of bilateral talks and conducted sports and cultural exchanges, as well as initiatives focused on improving forestry and infrastructure in the North.

However, Pyongyang has expressed frustration over the slow pace of implementation and criticized Seoul for allowing itself to be constrained by the U.S.-led sanctions.

The April 27 summit — the first face-to-face meeting between Korean leaders in more than a decade — was broadcast live and marked a high point in diplomatic efforts that began earlier this year and reversed tensions that had raised fears of a nuclear war.

The North has made strong advances in developing intercontinental ballistic missiles that could target the U.S. mainland and conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test last year. That led to a fierce war of words with Trump.

Trump and Kim hailed their June 12 summit in Singapore as a major step toward improving relations. But U.S. and North Korean officials have traded allegations of violating the spirit of the denuclearization agreement.

Washington wants the North to dismantle its nuclear weapons, but Pyongyang is calling for a phased approach that would see rewards such as sanctions relief for steps toward denuclearization.

Two other inter-Korean summits were held with former leaders in 2000 and 2007.

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TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup 16
Business 14
Classified 19, 23
Comics/Crossword 15
Faces 17
Opinion 20-21
Shifting Gears 18
Sports 25-32
Weather 14

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MILITARY

US soldier convicted of attempted rape

By CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

A U.S. soldier assigned to a special operations unit in Europe was convicted of attempted rape in Denmark last week, officials said.

The Danish court of Sønderborg on Wednesday sentenced the American to 18 months in prison and banned him from the country for 12 years for the June crime, the local prosecutor's office said in a statement.

U.S. officials in Europe con-

firmed that a soldier with the Stuttgart, Germany-based Special Operations Command Europe had been convicted in Denmark, but they refused to disclose his name or other details.

"We are cooperating fully with the Danish authorities," Mark Mackowiak, a European Command spokesman, said in an email.

Maj. Mike Weisman, spokesman for SOCEUR, said the American soldier, 21, was serving in a support role within the command

and was not a Green Beret.

For further details, officials deferred to the Danish civilian court system, which has not released the soldier's name.

In the early morning of June 3, a woman, 19, was returning home from downtown Haderslev on Denmark's southern Jutland peninsula when a man following her pulled her into some containers, the region's police said on Twitter at the time.

He ripped her underwear down and fought with her, but she fought back, kicking her way free, and

ran to her parents, police said.

Her attacker had been described as "Danish of appearance," but the woman told police he spoke English with a clear American accent.

The following day, a U.S. soldier was taken into custody and kept in pretrial detention, the Danish news service Ritzau reported. He pleaded not guilty and appealed the pretrial detention.

The soldier was in Denmark for training, Ritzau said.

Haderslev is home to the Danish Division's headquarters and a

brigade that trains the country's combat forces and others from the Baltic region, according to Denmark's armed forces website.

The street where the attack occurred runs near the military garrison there.

The soldier is appealing the verdict, the local prosecutor's office said on Twitter.

U.S. officials did not respond to questions about any military disciplinary actions he may face.

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Guam: Surveys show most Guamanians support relocation

FROM FRONT PAGE

The prefecture is home to about 30,000 U.S. troops — about half of all American servicemembers based in Japan — despite having about the same land area as Tokyo.

In 2006, some locals bristled when it was decided to keep Futenma's air operations on Okinawa by moving them to Camp Schwab on the remote northern coast.

In an attempt to appease locals, subsequent agreements promised to send an Okinawa-based KC-130 squadron to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, on the Japanese mainland, and move about 4,100 Marines to Guam. An additional 2,700 Okinawa-based Marines are to be sent to Hawaii, 800 to the U.S. mainland and 1,300 on a rotational basis to Australia. U.S. bases on Okinawa also will be consolidated.

Air facilities at Schwab were supposed to be completed by 2014, the GAO reported, but progress has been slowed, most notably by unsuccessful court challenges by Okinawa's anti-base Gov. Takeshi Onaga, who died last week after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

From his hospital bed on July 27, Onaga launched one final battle with the central government, vowing to revoke permitting later this month for the base's new runway over environmental concerns. Its chances of success are seen as limited, based on previous court decisions. Landfill work for the runway is slated to begin on Friday.

Active projects

Realignment plans call for the Marines' relocation to Guam to happen sometime between 2022 and 2026, said Donald Baldwin, deputy officer in charge for Marine Corps Activity Guam.

The ground-combat element, the logistics-combat element and much of the command-and-control operations will be at the new Marine base at Finegayan.

The aviation-combat element, along with its command and control and logistics support, will be at facilities being built at Andersen Air Force Base's north ramp, which hosts Marine and naval aviation.

Training ranges are planned for Tinian and Pagan islands in the Marianas, but these projects have been delayed by local opposition over cultural and environmental concerns, the GAO reported.

About \$500 million worth of projects have been completed on Guam, Turner said. The biggest so far are at Andersen's north ramp.

A \$50 million contract paid for by the Japanese prepared the site, which now hosts a \$23 million parking apron for Marine aircraft, along with a \$55 million



Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

This aviation maintenance hangar at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, will support Marine Corps Ospreys.

aviation maintenance hangar — one of two planned.

The first is designed for the MV-22 Osprey helicopter-plane hybrid, while the second, which has been awarded but not yet begun, will be compatible with several types of aircraft, including the F-35 joint strike fighter.

Also, there is a new north gate at Andersen for direct access to the Marine facilities from Route 9.

"There are a lot of active projects at the north ramp," Turner said.

A massive utility and site-improvement project — including water, sewer, power, steam, compressed air and oily waste infrastructure — has been completed at Apra Harbor. The facilities will support Marine embarkation and debarkation from Navy vessels. That construction was paid for by the Japanese through a \$97 million contract.

A Marine wing-support squadron facility at Andersen is almost finished, as are ground-support element shops.

Turner said the Defense Department is also funding off-base projects to improve the lives of Guamanians. About \$50 million went into the island's commercial port, and more than \$125 million is planned for

wastewater treatment upgrades.

There also have been road projects between Naval Base Guam and the northern part of the island: \$30.6 million for sewer interceptor repairs along Route 9 and \$3.7 million for expanded monitoring of the aquifer.

In addition, a site dedication was recently held for a Defense Department-funded repository that will house cultural artifacts discovered on the island. About 5,000 endangered orchids have been relocated from construction sites, and there are plans to restore 1,000 acres of forest on Guam, free from invasive species.

"We do have a fair amount in the rearview mirror ... but there's still a lot more to come," Turner said.

'It's really happening'

The next substantial projects will be a multipurpose machine-gun range at Northwest Field and a residential neighborhood for Military Operations on Urban Terrain, or MOUT, training hosted at the Andersen South Training Complex, Turner said.

Construction on the known distance ranges and live-fire training range complex has just begun. The \$78 million project — scheduled to be completed in the

fall of 2020 — will include four ranges and some support facilities.

The MOUT facility is one of several training areas being built at the Andersen South Training Complex, according to Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas. Others include a driver and convoy course, hand-grenade range, shoot house and breacher facility, as well as range-support facilities and telecommunications. That contract is expected to be awarded in January, Turner said, with completion in 2021.

"The facilities are going to be state of the art," said Baldwin, the deputy officer in charge for Marine Corps Activity Guam. "They're going to be configurable. ... It's going to be a very modern facility."

At Naval Base Guam, an \$18 million waterfront headquarters is expected to be completed next year and a \$56.7 million medical and dental clinic by 2020. A water well area at Northwest Field is also in the works to meet the increased water demand.

Military officials said their greatest hurdles appear to be behind them. They listened to the people of Guam and agreed to a more gradual development schedule — one that was more sensitive to environmental and cultural concerns.

Also, they are starting to see relief in the form of more temporary workers. A new interpretation of labor policies threatened to derail the realignment in 2016 when fewer H-2B visa approvals put a strain on Guam's local skilled labor force. Gov. Eddie Calvo threatened to pull his support as a result.

Turner said 130 additional skilled foreign tradesmen have been approved and are on the island, though only 45 were working on-site. The rest were awaiting security clearances but are able to help with prefabrication work outside the fence line.

Baldwin said that according to local surveys, about 80 percent of Guamanians support the relocation of Marines to Guam. The plan of record is set, though minor changes could occur according to a number of variables.

"The messaging has been very positive here locally, so I think that's the nice takeaway here," he said. "Guam is very pro-military. ... If you go to north ramp on Andersen and you look at that, you'll say, 'Wow, it's really happening.'"

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MILITARY



SETH ROBSON/Stars and Stripes

This picture of a photograph displayed in the 2nd Infantry Division Museum shows soldiers from the 9th Infantry Regiment posing with one of three Balangiga bells in the Philippines in 1902.

DOD to return Philippine bells

By J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

Church bells seized by American troops during the Philippine-American War more than a century ago could soon be on their way back to their home country.

"Secretary of Defense (Jim) Mattis has notified Congress that the Department of Defense intends to return the Bells of Balangiga to the Philippines," Moly Koscina, a press attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Manila, told Stars and Stripes.

The bells were said to have been run on Sept. 28, 1902, to signal a surprise attack by Filipino rebels against soldiers of the 9th Infantry Regiment that left 48 Americans dead.

The Philippine government has long insisted on the return of the bells, which belonged to the Roman Catholic church in the town of Balangiga. But some veterans and Wyoming's members of Congress are against the move, seeing them as a memorial to U.S. troops. In a statement last November, those groups declared that they "strongly oppose any efforts to deconstruct or disturb this veteran's memorial that honors America's fallen soldiers."

U.S. troops brought two of the bells back to their base in Fort Russell, Wyo. That was later renamed F.E. Warren Air Force Base, and the bells remain there in an arched brick building.

A third, smaller bell, which was

also taken to the United States, now stands in the 2nd Infantry Division Museum at Camp Red Cloud in South Dakota.

No date has been chosen for the return of the bells, but the announcement came after years of lobbying from some American veterans and Filipino activists. Filipino President Rodrigo Duterte has repeatedly called for their return, and the National Defense Authorization Act of 2018 allows for their transfer to the Philippines if Congress does not object.

In the Philippine-American War, which began Feb. 4, 1898, and ended on July 4, 1902, 4,165 U.S. troops were killed and 200,000 to 600,000 Filipinos died.

After the deaths of 48 troops in the ambush at Balangiga, U.S. troops returned to the area and bombarded the town with cannon fire. U.S. Gen. Jacob Smith then infamously ordered his troops to kill any male in the region over the age of 10 and turn the area into a "howling wilderness."

Over the years, the bells assumed emotional significance in the Philippines, and in 1994, Manila first began insisting that the bells be returned. It has repeated the demand many times since. Although the two countries have traditionally been close allies, Washington sought to skirt the issue in the past because of opposition from some vets.

Eric Burke, a historian who served as the regiment's guidon

bearer, said the bells represent fallen American dead, even if the war they died in was messy and in some parts dishonorable. "These men, regardless of the individual causes that brought them to that war, were Americans," Burke told Stars and Stripes. "Their sacrifice is still an American sacrifice, and thus is also symbolic of all American soldiers who have fallen throughout the history of this country. Hence, why the whole thing is such a tangled mess symbolically."

Some Filipino-American veterans welcomed the Defense Department move.

"I think the return of the Balangiga Bells to the Philippines heals the animosity and hatred both nations shared during the early days of occupation," said retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Nonie Cabana, of San Antonio. "It shows America's inclination to err on the side of human decency and humanity."

The current offer returns the bells to the Catholic Church. Advocates for the return believe that is a shrewd maneuver legally and politically.

"By returning the bells to the Catholic Church, the decision [softens] any attempt by the U.S. Congress to block the return," said Bob Couttie, a historian who wrote an account of the Battle of Balangiga.

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Mattis: Space Force critics say it will require more bureaucracy

FROM FRONT PAGE

The Pentagon first will establish a Space Command to oversee and coordinate space operations and a Space Development Agency to accelerate the development and fielding of space technologies for the military. It also will build up larger numbers of service members with expertise in space operations.

"We're in favor of war-fighting capability organized along the lines of what the president laid out," Mattis said, referring to President Donald Trump's instruction in June that the Pentagon begin the process of creating a Space Force that would be "separate but equal" to the Air Force, which currently manages most of the military's space operations.

Mattis said he has been discussing that with Trump and Pence since the first month of the administration.

Critics of making space a separate branch of the military say it

would entail more bureaucracy and cost. Deputy Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan said Thursday



Mattis

proposal for a Space Force early next year as part of its fiscal 2020 budget request.

Mattis was in Brazil to discuss a range of defense issues, including mutual security threats. Later in the week, he is scheduled to make the first visit to Argentina by a U.S. defense secretary since 2005. He also will visit Chile and Colombia.

Pentagon has new goal in hiring defense contractors

By ELLEN NAKASHIMA
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon has a new goal aimed at protecting its \$100 billion supply chain from foreign theft and sabotage: to base its weapons contract awards on security assessments — not just cost and performance — a move that would mark a fundamental shift in department culture.

The goal, based on a strategy called Deliver Uncompromised, comes as American defense firms are increasingly vulnerable to data breaches, a risk highlighted earlier this year by China's alleged theft of sensitive information related to undersea warfare and the Pentagon's decision last year to ban software made by the Russian firm Kaspersky Lab.

"The department is examining ways to designate security as a metric within the acquisition process," Maj. Audreia Harris, a Pentagon spokeswoman, said in a statement. "Determinations [currently] are based on cost, schedule and performance. The department's goal is to elevate security to be on par with cost, schedule and performance."

The strategy was written by the Mitre Corp., a not-for-profit company that runs federally funded research centers, and the firm released a copy of its report Monday.

"The major goal is to move our suppliers, the defense industrial base and the rest of the private sector who contribute to the supply chain beyond a posture of compliance — to owning the problem with us," said Chris Nissen, director of asymmetric threat response at Mitre.

Harris said the Pentagon will review Mitre's recommendations

before proceeding. She added that the Department of Defense, working with Congress and industry, "is already advancing to elevate security within the supply chain."

Testifying to Congress in June, Karl Bingen, the Pentagon's deputy undersecretary for intelligence, said, "We must have confidence that industry is delivering capabilities, technologies and weapon systems that are uncompromised by our adversaries, secure from cradle to grave."

Security should be seen not as a "cost burden," she told the House Armed Services Committee, "but as a major factor in their competitiveness for U.S. government business."

The new strategy is necessary, officials say, because U.S. adversaries can degrade the military's battlefield and technological advantage by using "blended operations" — hacking and stealing valuable data, manipulating software to sabotage command and control systems or cause weapons to fail, and potentially inducing a defense firm employee to insert a faulty component or chip into a system.

"A modern aircraft may have more than 10 million lines of code," Mitre's report said. "Combat systems of all types increasingly employ sensors, actuators and software-activated control devices."

The term "Deliver Uncompromised" grew out of a 2010 meeting of senior counterintelligence policy officials, some of whom lamented that the Defense Department was tolerating contractors repeatedly delivering compromised capabilities to the Pentagon, and the intelligence community.

US soldier dies in lake swimming accident

Stars and Stripes

A U.S. soldier died last week after a swimming accident near Darmstadt, Germany, officials said. The soldier, identified as Spc. Melvin Douglas Spruill Jr., 20, of Washington, N.C., died in a hospital after being rescued by fellow servicemenbers from a lake in Riedstadt-Leeheim on the afternoon of Aug. 6, German police said.

Spruill, who joined the Army in 2016, was a petroleum supply specialist with 1st Battalion, 214th Aviation Regiment, in Wiesbaden.

Spruill was a great soldier whose presence will



Spruill

be missed, said Lt. Col. Frank Fair, the battalion commander.

"It was an honor and a privilege to have served alongside such an enthusiastic and dedicated patriot," Fair said. "His death is an immeasurable loss. His family and friends are in our thoughts and prayers."

The incident is under investigation, Army officials said.

news@stripes.com

WAR ON TERRORISM

UAE attacks report on secret deals with al-Qaida in Yemen

By JON GAMBRELL
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — The United Arab Emirates on Monday said it was actively fighting al-Qaida's branch in Yemen after an Associated Press report outlined how Emirati forces cut secret deals with the militants to get them to abandon territory.

An Emirati general denied the report while speaking to journalists in Dubai, saying it was based on "nothing." The AP spoke to two dozen witnesses, tribal leaders, mediators, militants and security officials who all described the practice.

Meanwhile, a top Emirati diplomat acknowledged that war is not a "clean operation" when asked about a Saudi-led airstrike last week in Yemen that killed dozens, including schoolchildren.

"This war has been and remains an ugly war," said Anwar Gargash, the Emirati minister of state for foreign affairs. "In this war, we have seen civilians shot at, bombed, killed and, unfortunately, as I say, this is really part of any confrontation we have to do."

The UAE has been part of the Saudi-led coalition battling Yemen's Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, since 2015. Emirati forces largely have handled operations in southern Yemen, including working with local militiamen and soldiers still loyal to the country's exiled government.

The AP report published last week outlined how coalition-backed militias actively recruit al-Qaida militants, or those who were recently members, because



Gargash

they're considered exceptional fighters.

One Yemeni commander who was put on the U.S. terrorism list for al-Qaida ties last year continues to receive money from the UAE to run his militia, his own aide told the AP. Another commander, recently granted \$12 million for his fighting force by Yemen's president, has a known al-Qaida figure as his closest aide.

On Monday, Emirati Brig. Gen. Musallam al-Rashedi talked to journalists about his country's work to battle al-Qaida in Yemen, known by the acronym AQAP. Responding to an AP question, the general denied the news agency's report without offering any specifics.

"They are not willing to negotiate, most of these hard-core guys. They are willing to go and fight," al-Rashedi said. "We have guys who have been injured, killed by AQAP and there's no point in negotiating with these guys."

Emirati officials said only "200" al-Qaida fighters remain on the battlefield, without elaborating.

The U.S. has waged a long-running campaign of drone strikes in Yemen targeting suspected al-Qaida members. Al-Rashedi described receiving surveillance footage from the Americans, as well as directly working with U.S. special forces.



RAHMAT GUL/AP

An injured man is transported by car on the Ghazni highway in Maidan Shar, west of Kabul, Afghanistan, on Monday. Afghan forces battled the Taliban in the city of Ghazni for the fourth straight day on Monday.

US advisers, strikes aid Afghans in Ghazni battle

By RAHIM FAIEZ
AND AMIR SHAH
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Four days of ferocious fighting between Afghan forces and the Taliban over a key provincial capital has claimed the lives of about 100 Afghan policemen and soldiers and at least 20 civilians, the defense minister said Monday.

The staggering numbers provided by Gen. Tareq Shah Bahrami were the first official casualty toll since the Taliban launched a massive assault on Ghazni, the capital of Ghazni province, last Friday.

The multipronged assault overwhelmed the city's defenses and allowed insurgents to capture several parts of it. It was a major show of force by the Taliban, who infiltrated deep into the strategic city barely 75 miles from the capital, Kabul.

The United States has sent military advisers to aid Afghan forces. U.S. spokesman Lt. Col. Martin O'Donnell told NBC News that the United States had conducted 24 airstrikes in Ghazni since Friday — 16 on Sunday alone.

The fall of Ghazni, a city of 270,000 people, would mark an important victory for the Taliban. It would also cut off a key highway linking Kabul to the southern provinces, the Taliban's traditional heartland.

Bahrami, the defense minister, spoke to reporters at a press conference in Kabul on Monday. He said the casualty figures are not yet definite and that the numbers might change. He didn't offer a breakdown of the casualties but Interior Minister Wais Ahmad Barmak said nearly 70 policemen were among those killed.

Bahrami said about 1,000 ad-

ditional troops have been sent to Ghazni and helped prevent the city from falling into Taliban hands. He also said 194 insurgents, including 12 leaders, were killed — with Pakistanis, Chechen and Arab foreign fighters among the dead.

The Taliban have inflicted huge damage on the city, especially Ghazni's historic parts and cultural heritage, Bahrami said, adding that he believes the next 24 hours would turn the tide in the battle.

Barmak, the interior minister, said top security and government officials, as well as the military chief of staff, were now in Ghazni, leading the "clearing up operations" in different parts of the city.

The attack began Friday, with insurgents infiltrating people's homes and slipping out into the night to attack Afghan forces in Ghazni.

The Taliban also destroyed a telecommunications tower on Ghazni's outskirts, cutting off all landline and cellphone links to the city and making it difficult to confirm details of the fighting.

Over the past months, the Taliban have seized several districts across Afghanistan, staging near-

daily attacks on Afghan security forces, but have been unable to capture and hold urban areas.

The United States and NATO formally concluded their combat mission in Afghanistan at the end of 2014, but have since then repeatedly come to the aid of Afghan forces as they struggle to combat the resurgent Taliban.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani is said to be considering a ceasefire offer to the Taliban for the upcoming Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, which starts Aug. 21. A three-day holiday cease-fire in June brought rare quiet to much of the country, but the insurgents rejected a government request to extend it.

Instead, the Taliban appear intent on seeking a position of strength ahead of expected talks with the United States.

As part of an effort to bolster Afghan fighting strength, the U.S. earlier this year sent more military advisers to Afghanistan. It also shifted A-10 attack planes and other aircraft from striking Islamic State militants in Syria and Iraq to Afghanistan. These and other moves boosted the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan by at least 3,500 to a total of more than 14,000.

Syria vows to aid refugees but wants sanctions lifted

Associated Press

DAMASCUS, Syria — Syrian government officials vowed Monday to ensure the safe return of refugees and urged Western countries to encourage the process by lifting sanctions.

Deputy Foreign Minister Faisal Mekdad said the refugees' return is a top priority for Damascus, adding that "the Syrian government will facilitate their return by all means." He added that the country would welcome any foreign assistance, provided it comes with no preconditions.

Public Administration Minister Hussein Makhlof said authorities are working to rebuild hospitals, schools and other infrastructure to help accommodate refugees.

President Bashar Assad's forces, with Russian air support, have won a series of victories in recent months against opposition fighters, who are now mainly confined to the northern Idlib province. The fighting is over in much of

the country, but many of the more than 5 million refugees fear mandatory conscription or reprisal from government forces if they return. Others have vowed to go after their homes and businesses were destroyed.

Makhlof called on Western countries to lift an economic embargo imposed early in the seven-year conflict that was aimed at pressuring Assad to step down, noting that it would help restore the Syrian economy and encourage the refugees' return.

Meanwhile, a Syrian search and rescue group says the death toll from an explosion that destroyed two apartment buildings in a rebel-held town in the country's northwest the previous day has risen to 67.

The Civil Defense, also known as the White Helmets, says rescuers were still searching through the rubble in Sarmada on Monday, looking for survivors from the blast. It says 35 wounded people have already been found.

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NATION

FBI agent fired over Trump texts

BY MATT ZAPOTOSKY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The FBI fired Agent Peter Strzok, who helped lead the bureau's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election until officials discovered he had been sending anti-Trump texts.

Aitan Goelman, Strzok's lawyer, said FBI Deputy Director David Bowdich ordered the firing on Friday — even though the director of the FBI office that normally handles employee discipline had decided Strzok should face only a demotion and 60-day suspension. Goelman said the move undercuts the FBI's repeated assurances that Strzok would be afforded the normal disciplinary process.

"This isn't the normal process in any way more than name," Goelman said.

The FBI declined to comment.

The termination marks a remarkable downfall for Strzok, a 22-year veteran of the bureau who investigated Russian spies, defense officials accused of selling secrets to China and a myriad other important cases. In the twilight of his career, Strzok was integral to two of the bureau's most high-profile investigations: the Russia case, and the investigation into Hillary Clinton's use



Strzok

of a private email server while secretary of state.

But when a Justice Department inspector general investigation uncovered politically charged messages that Strzok had exchanged with another FBI official, he was relegated to a position in human resources. Conservatives soon made Strzok the face of their attacks against the special counsel investigation into the president's campaign, and the FBI took steps to remove him from its ranks.

Strzok's position in the bureau had been precarious since last summer, when Inspector General Michael Horowitz told Special Counsel Robert Mueller that the lead agent on his team had been exchanging anti-Trump messages with an FBI lawyer. The next day, Mueller expelled Strzok from the group.

The lawyer, Lisa Page, had also been a part of Mueller's team, though she left a few weeks earlier and no longer works for the FBI. She and Strzok were having an affair.

Strzok is the third high-ranking FBI official involved in the Clinton and Russia investigations to be fired amid an intensely political backdrop. Trump removed James B. Comey as the bureau's director and said he did so thinking of the Russia case. Attorney General Jeff Sessions later removed Comey's deputy, Andrew McCabe, after the inspector general alleged he lied about a media disclosure related to Clinton.

McCabe — who, unlike Comey, could not be removed at the will of the president — has said his termination was a politically motivated attempt to undermine the Mueller probe. He is currently facing a criminal investigation by prosecutors in the D.C. U.S. Attorney's Office.



MATT ROURKE/AP

Lauren Woehler speaks at a PFAS Community Stakeholder Meeting in Horsham, Pa., on July 25. EPA testing found significant amounts of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, in public water supplies in 33 states.

Toxics from manufacturing turning up in public water

BY ELLEN KICKMEYER
Associated Press

HORSHAM, Pa. — Lauren Woehler wonders if her 16-month-old daughter has been harmed by tap water contaminated with toxic industrial compounds used in products such as nontoxic cookware, carpets and fast-food wrappers. Henry Betz, at 76, rattles around his house alone at night, thinking about the water his family unknowingly drank for years that was tainted by the same contaminants, and the pancreatic cancers that killed his wife, Betty Jean, and two others in his household.

Tim Hagey, manager of a local water utility, recalls how he used to assure people that the local public water was safe. That was before testing showed it had some of the highest levels of the toxic compounds of any public water system in the U.S.

"You all made me out to be a liar," Hagey, general water and sewer manager in the eastern Pennsylvania town of Warminster, told Environmental Protection Agency officials last month.

At "community engagement sessions" like the one in Horsham, residents and state, local and military officials are demanding that the EPA act quickly — and decisively — to clean up local water systems testing positive for dangerous levels of the chemicals, perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS.

The Trump administration called the contamination "a potential public relations

nightmare" earlier this year after federal toxicology studies found that some of the compounds are more hazardous than previously acknowledged.

EPA testing from 2013 to 2015 found significant amounts of PFAS in public water supplies in 33 U.S. states. The finding helped move PFAS up as a national priority.

So did scientific studies that firmed up the health risks. One, looking at a kind of PFAS once used in making Teflon, found a probable link with kidney and testicular cancer, ulcerative colitis, thyroid disease, hypertension in pregnant women and high cholesterol. Other recent studies point to immune problems in children, among other things.

EPA said it will prepare a national management plan for the compounds by the end of the year. But Peter Grevat, director of the agency's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, told The Associated Press that there's no deadline for a decision on possible regulatory actions.

In Horsham and surrounding towns in eastern Pennsylvania, and at other sites around the United States, the foams once used routinely in firefighting training at military bases contained PFAS.

While contamination of drinking water around military bases and factories gets most of the attention, the EPA says 80 percent of human exposure comes from consumer products in the home.

Strong quake hits Alaska's North Slope

Associated Press

KAVIK RIVER CAMP, Alaska — Alaska's North Slope was hit Sunday by the most powerful earthquake ever recorded in the region, the state's seismologist said.

At 6:58 a.m. Sunday, the magnitude 6.4 earthquake struck an area 42 miles east of Kavik River Camp and 343 miles northeast of Fairbanks, the state's second-biggest city. The U.S. Geological Survey said the earthquake had a depth of about 6 miles.

State seismologist Mike West told the Anchorage Daily News that the earthquake was the biggest recorded in the North Slope by a substantial amount. "This is a very significant event that will take us some time to understand," he told the Daily News.

The previous most powerful quake in the North Slope was in 1995 at magnitude 5.2, West told the newspaper.

The jump from a 5.2 to Sunday's 6.4 is significant because earthquakes rapidly grow in strength as magnitude rises, he said. A magnitude 6.4 earthquake is 15.8 times bigger and 63.1 times stronger than a 5.2 earthquake, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

"That's why at 6.4 this changes how we think about the region," West said. "It's a little early to say how, but it's safe to say this earthquake will cause a re-evaluation of the seismic potential of that area."

Later Sunday, another magnitude 6.1 earthquake hit at 1:15 p.m. near the city of Kaktovik on Alaska's North Slope, the U.S. Geological Survey said. The epicenter was southwest of Kaktovik, which has about 290 people.

The magnitude 6.4 earthquake that hit Sunday morning was felt by workers at the oil-production facilities in and around Prudhoe Bay, the Daily News reported.

The newspaper said that Alyeska Pipeline said the earthquake did not damage the trans-Alaska pipeline. The company said in a tweet that "there are no operational concerns" related to the earthquake, but the pipeline will be inspected.

Several aftershocks were reported across northern Alaska.

The Alaska Earthquake Center said the earthquakes were felt across the eastern part of the state's North Slope Borough and as far south as metro Fairbanks. The center said there are no reports of damage.

Governors: Ban on land deals could hurt sage grouse

Associated Press

DENVER — Some governors in the West say a new Trump administration directive threatens to undermine a hard-won compromise aimed at saving a beleaguered bird scattered across their region.

The directive, issued in late July, severely limits a type of land swap involving federal property. Critics say that eliminates an important technique for saving habitat for the shrinking population of greater sage grouse.

"It took one of our tools out of the toolbox," said John Swartout, an adviser to Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper.

Hickenlooper told federal officials in an Aug. 2 letter that he opposes the change. Nevada, Oregon and Utah also expressed opposition or concern.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Bureau of

Land Management, which issued the directive, said the agency would work with the governors on "adjusted" plans.

Greater sage grouse once numbered in the millions, but the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service now estimates the population at 200,000 to 500,000. Experts blame energy development that broke up the bird's habitat, along with disease, livestock grazing and other causes.

Their range covers about 270,000 square miles in parts of 11 Western states and two Canadian provinces. The largest concentrations are in Wyoming, Montana, Nevada and Idaho.

In 2010, the Obama administration said the bird would need protection under the Endangered Species Act, which would have brought restrictions on drilling, mining, ranching and other development.

But in 2015, the administration reversed course, announcing an intricate agreement called the Sage Grouse Initiative that relied on federal agencies, states, ranchers and others to save the bird without invoking potentially stricter limits under the endangered species law.

One tool states planned to use was requiring developers to replace destroyed or damaged habitat with similar land elsewhere. The practice is called "off-site compensatory mitigation" and is envisioned as a last resort if the damage cannot be avoided or minimized.

But the Bureau of Land Management, which oversees about 388,000 square miles of public land, announced on July 24 that it would no longer use mandatory off-site compensatory mitigation on most federal land.

NATION

Widow of Texas church shooter speaks out

By SAMANTHA SCHMIDT
The Washington Post

On that November morning, Danielle Kelley screamed as her husband, Devin Kelley, strapped her to their bed in their Texas home. Their son, Michael, 2, sobbed as he watched his father tie up his mother with rope, handcuffs and duct tape. Raleigh, their 5-month-old daughter, lay in her crib, Kelley told the San Antonio Express-News.

Wearing a ballistic vest, Devin Kelley left the house with his Ruger AR-556 and two handguns. Less than an hour later, he stormed a small Sutherland Springs, Texas, church and sprayed bullets into the congregation, killing 26 people and injuring 20 others in the worst mass shooting in Texas history.

For the first time since the church massacre, the gunman's wife described that day and the excruciating months that have followed in a series of interviews with the Express-News published Saturday.

After a shootout with a local man who ran to the church barefoot to intervene, Kelley sped away from First Baptist in his Ford SUV, which careened off the road into a ditch. He called his parents, who had since rushed to his house to untie Danielle Kelley from the bed. He spoke to the three of them over a speakerphone.

"He was like, 'I can't. I've killed so many people — so, so many people,'" Danielle Kelley recalled to the Express-News. "He kept saying how sorry he was."

Then Devin Kelley, 26, shot himself in the head. He was dead by the time police arrived.

"It's just not fair because my kids now have to grow up without a dad," his widow said in an emotional video interview with the Express-News. "I have to do things by myself being a single parent."

"And a lot of people go through that normally," she added, "but now it's like, I'm a single parent to kids, and I have a husband that murdered people."

Kelley was left mourning her husband and the father of her kids. But she also grieved the loss of more than two dozen members of a church community she grew up with, she told the Express-News.

Devin Kelley killed members of three generations of the Holcombe family, including a 1-year-old and an unborn child. The victims were families that Danielle Kelley sat beside at church and whose children she used to babysit. Among the dead was her grandmother, Lou White, who took care of her when she was young.

While it's still not clear exactly why Devin Kelley targeted First Baptist Church, his widow and some authorities speculated it was connected to his troubled relationship with Danielle Kelley's mother, Michelle Shields, who attended the church but was not

present when he opened fire on the congregation.

Kelley has since started going back to church in Sutherland Springs, she told the Express-News, but it's "difficult because it's not the same."

"I'm used to seeing ... Lou, my grandmother, smiling and holding the babies, saying 'Oh, come on, sit over here. I saved you a spot,'" she said.

Kelley described befriending Devin Kelley when she was 13 and he was 17. They connected over their shared struggles growing up — as teenagers. She suffered sexual abuse at the hands of a relative, she told the Express-News.

During her senior year of high school, she attempted suicide.

He was diagnosed with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and recalled being bullied as a child.

But they would not get married until years later, when she was 19 and he was 23. By then, Devin Kelley had already

divorced a previous wife, Tessa Brennanman, who said he threatened to kill her on numerous occasions and once put a gun to her head.

Court documents also showed that he physically abused her and struck her young child "on the head and body with a force likely to produce death or grievous bodily harm."

While serving in the Air Force, he was convicted by a general court-martial on two charges of domestic assault and served a year in prison.

Danielle and Devin Kelley wed in 2014. Their marriage was a tumultuous one that became worse as he became more depressed and reclusive, she told the Express-News. The couple eventually isolated themselves from the community and from Kelley's mother, Shields.

Devin Kelley sent his mother-in-law texts threatening to "destroy" her life if she entered the hospital room when their second child was born, the Express-News reported.

He became an atheist, began abusing his anxiety medication and refused to leave their apartment, Kelley told the newspaper.

"Devin was sick. He lost who he was. Because the real Devin would've never hurt babies. He was a family person. He would never have hurt anybody," Kelley

told the Express News. "He lost the touch of reality."

The Express-News article portrayed a conflicted widow grappling with feelings of love and grief for her late husband but also immense guilt over the lives he destroyed.

"People will never understand," Kelley told the Express-News. She said she wants her children to know who their father was, "but then I can't let them know because I don't want my kids ever following in their dad's footsteps."

"I don't want people to feel like ... I make excuses for him because I don't," she added. "It's hard because I will love him always, but I will always hate what he did."



LISA KRANTZ, THE SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS/AP

Tears stream down the face of Danielle Kelley, right, as Stephen Willeford, who shot at her husband, prays with her on June 17 after the first service Kelley attended at First Baptist Church since the Nov. 5, 2017, massacre.

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NATION

White supremacists dwarfed at DC rally

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — White supremacists held a rally in Washington on Sunday, and almost no one but their opponents and the police showed up.

Jason Kessler, one of the organizers of last year's violent and deadly Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Va., wanted to hold an anniversary demonstration there, but the city wouldn't let him. So he brought his show to Washington, where he hoped 400 supporters would join him for a rally at Lafayette Square, across from the White House. Fewer than 40 turned out.

The group was met by thousands of protesters who filled their half of the leafy, seven-acre park chanting "Go home, Nazis!" "No Trump! No KKK! No fascist USA!" and "Black lives matter!" They drowned out whatever message Kessler and his small band of followers had hoped to deliver — and that was their goal.

City leaders and law enforcement officials were determined that the event not be a repeat of the mayhem in Charlottesville last year, when city police and Virginia state troopers allowed white supremacists and neo-Nazis to clash in the streets with anti-hate protesters. Counterprotester Heather Heyer was killed when a man po-

lice say identified himself as a Nazi drove a car into a crowd. Two state troopers died when their helicopter crashed following a day of monitoring the civil disturbance.

A massive police presence Sunday kept the two sides separated, and outside of a confrontation between some antifa, or anti-fascist, protesters and police long after the rally had ended, there were no reports of violence. Police reported that one man was arrested after he punched a man wearing a "Make America Great Again" hat.

For law enforcement, getting Kessler and his followers to and from the event without incident proved the biggest — and most controversial — challenge.

Kessler and his supporters arrived a little before 1 p.m. at a Metro subway station in Vienna, Va., where they were accompanied by law enforcement officers onto the rear car of a waiting train. After disembarking at the Foggy Bottom station in Northwest Washington, a larger police contingent, including officers on bicycles and motorcycles, escorted the group on a walk of several blocks past protesters who shouted and chanted at them. Once inside Lafayette Square, protesters were kept far away from Kessler's group.

Critics, including two D.C. Council members and the union representing Metro em-



CRAIG HUDSON, CHARLESTON (W.Va.) GAZETTE-MAIL/AP

White supremacists, led by Jason Kessler, center, wearing a suit and carrying a flag, march to Lafayette Square during Sunday's "Unite the Right 2" rally in Washington.

ployees, lambasted the transit agency for providing the group extra protection after having said last week that its members would not be given special treatment.

At Lafayette Square, protesters continued to yell and chant, and some, including a small contingent of antifa members dressed in black, hoped for a showdown with the white supremacists when the rally ended a little before 5 p.m. Police acted quickly to spirit Kessler and his followers out of the area in white vans to the Rosslyn Metro station in Virginia, where they boarded a train to return to Vienna.

Antifa members vented their frustration at not being able to confront the rallygoers by lighting smoke bombs and firecrack-

ers and throwing eggs at federal buildings downtown. By then, a steady rain was falling, however, and the protest was fizzling.

Most began heading home, but police kept a watchful eye as the black-clad group carrying umbrellas wandered about knocking over trash cans, chanting "Bust a window!" and yelling at police to get out of their cars and "meet us in the streets." A confrontation between the protesters and police erupted briefly near 13th and G streets Northwest.

At the rally, Kessler spent much of his 15-minute speech defending last year's Unite the Right rally and insisting, despite evidence to the contrary, that most of those who attended had been nonviolent.

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NATION



Christine Hallquist, right, a transgender candidate seeking the Democratic party nomination to run for governor of Vermont, walks with campaign aide David Glidden in Burlington, Vt., on Thursday.

Vt. exec could be nation's first transgender governor

By WILSON RING
Associated Press

BURLINGTON, Vt. — A former energy company executive from Vermont has a shot at becoming the nation's first transgender governor — but she says that's not the main reason she's running.

Christine Hallquist said that in the run-up to Tuesday's primary, people are finally beginning to pay attention to the race, but her status as a transgender woman isn't what's on their minds. Rather, she says, voters want to know what she can do to help them get higher-paying jobs, provide health care for their families and better educate their children.

So she's appealing to Vermonters with a progressive message that includes a livable wage, Medicare for all, free public college education and high-speed broadband access — even to those who live on remote back roads.

"That's how I want to be known in Vermont," Hallquist, 62, told The Associated Press in an interview at her Burlington offices. "Nationally, I want to be known as the first trans candidate."

It's working. The Victory Fund, a political action committee that backs LGBTQ candidates across the country, calls Hallquist a "game changer." If elected in November, Hallquist would become the first openly transgender governor in the country.

Roughly 200 LGBT candidates are expected to be on the November ballot across the country for state and federal office, the most ever, according to the Victory Fund. They include Alexandria Chandler, Massachusetts' first openly transgender candidate for Congress, and Kim Coco Iwamoto, who would be Hawaii's first transgender lieutenant governor if elected. Like Hallquist, both

are Democrats.

In Vermont, home to independent U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders and the first state to recognize same-sex unions with its landmark 2000 civil unions law, a precursor to gay marriage — Hallquist's gender has not been an issue.

She's facing three other Democrats in Tuesday's primary: environmental activist James Ehlers, dance festival organizer Brenda Siegel, and Ethan Sonnborn, a 14-year-old boy taking advantage of a quirk in state law that doesn't require gubernatorial candidates to be of voting age.

Republican incumbent Gov. Phil Scott also faces a primary challenge of his own from Springfield businessman Keith Stern, who describes himself as a conservative running on financial issues.

As of Vermont's July 15 campaign finance filing, Hallquist had raised about \$132,000, although she announced last week she was returning about \$16,000 in corporate donations. Ehlers had raised just under \$50,000, Siegel about \$17,000 and Sonnborn \$1,700. Scott, the incumbent, had raised almost \$177,000, but a PAC supported by the Republican Governor's Association has raised more than \$1 million to promote Scott's candidacy.

Typically, Scott would be virtually assured of re-election. No sitting governor has been defeated in Vermont since 1962.

But, as in much of the country, politics are different now. In April, Scott signed what Vermont was historic — if mild by national standards — restrictions on gun ownership, angering his Republican base. His once sky-high popularity has waned, potentially leaving an opening for a well-funded Democratic challenger.

Count of Kansas gubernatorial primary ballots to stretch out

By JOHN HANNA
Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. — The counting of the last ballots in the tight and contentious Republican primary for Kansas governor will stretch out over the week and still might not settle the race.

Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach and Gov. Jeff Colyer were locked in a tight race after late mail-in ballots from all 105 counties were added to totals from advance voting and ballots cast at the polls on Aug. 7. The state's 105 counties still must review nearly 9,000 provisional ballots and determine how many of them were cast in the Republican primary and how many will be counted. They have until Aug. 20 to finish that process and certify their local results.

Here's a look at the process for counting the remaining votes and a possible recount:

■ **Mail-in ballots.** The Legislature last year changed the state's law on mail-in ballots so that they were to be counted if they were postmarked Tuesday, the day of the primary, and arrived by Friday. Previously, they had to arrive by Election Day, and in the 2016 general election more than 500 arrived afterward, said Bryan Caskey, the state elections director in the secretary of state's office.

■ **Who counts?** While Kobach's office provides guidance on the handling of ballots and supervises the counting, the work is done by the counties.

The chief elections officer in each county appoints a bipartisan board of election workers to handle the individual ballots.

The secretary of state appoints an election commissioner in the state's four most populous counties and the chief elections officers in the other 101 are elected clerks.

■ **Provisional ballots.** Voters receive provisional ballots at the polls when election workers are not sure they are eligible to vote at that location, or at all. Those ballots are sealed in envelopes and set aside to be reviewed later, with notes about the issues in-

volved. The eligibility of the voters is determined before workers unseal the ballots. Once a ballot is unsealed, workers can see whether it was cast in the Republican or Democratic primary before counting any remaining votes.

■ **Counting days.** State law says counties could begin their canvassing Monday. Seventy-six counties plan to start then, including Johnson and Sedgwick.



Colyer

An additional 14 plan to start Tuesday, two on Wednesday and six on Thursday, including Shawnee and Wyandotte counties. Rooks County in northwest Kansas has scheduled its canvassing for Friday, and six counties have set it for Aug. 20, the deadline to finish.

■ **Requesting a recount.** Under a Kansas law specific to statewide races, a candidate must ask for a recount by 5 p.m. Friday. State law has no provision for an automatic recount, no matter how close the race.

A candidate can ask for a recount no matter how large the margin, but he or she must put up funds to cover the full cost of the recount. If the recount changes the result, the candidate seeking it gets his or her money back, and the counties and state cover their costs.

The candidate can seek a recount in only one or a handful of counties, dozens of counties or statewide. Also, the candidate chooses whether the recount will be machine re-scanning of paper ballots or a hand count of those ballots.

A recount must start the day after the candidate requests one, even if the work would start on a Saturday. Counties involved have five days to finish, meaning all of it would be done by Aug. 22 at the latest.



Kobach

Trump's feud with Harley-Davidson escalates as he praises boycott

The Washington Post

President Donald Trump on Sunday leveraged the office of the president of the United States against a private American company for seeking to insulate itself from his trade war.

"Great!" he wrote of purported plans by customers of Harley-Davidson to boycott the venerable motorcycle company over its plan to move production of motorcycles sold in Europe to factories outside the U.S. The firm, founded in Milwaukee in 1903, estimated that it would lose \$100 million annually from steel tariffs imposed by the president in March.

Trump tweeted "Many @harleydavidsonowners plan to boycott the company if manufacturing moves overseas. Great! Most other companies are coming in our direction, including

Harley competitors. A really bad move! U.S. will soon have a level playing field, or better."

His early morning tweet followed a meeting Saturday with "Bikers for Trump" at his golf course in Bedminster, N.J. About 180 members of the group chanted "Four more years!" and "USA!" as they entered the ornate ballroom, according to The Associated Press. The president thanked them and praised their rides, calling them "the most beautiful bikes anyone's ever seen."

As recently as last year, Trump extolled the company, saying in a meeting with executives in the Roosevelt Room that he considered Harley-Davidson a "true American icon, one of the greats."

His view changed when the firm's leaders announced this

summer that they would use overseas facilities for production of bikes headed for sale in Europe. The company said it would not change its long-standing policy of not selling motorcycles in the U.S. that are made overseas.

Trump seemed to reach a truce last month with leaders of the European Union to avert an escalating trade war, agreeing with European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker to hold back on proposed car tariffs and try to resolve their conflict over steel and aluminum. Still, he vowed earlier this month to move forward with tariffs as a central feature of his economic policy, denigrating his critics as "fools." He said the new levies would prove effective in forcing other nations to renegotiate trade deals with the U.S.



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NATION

After 17 days, orca lets go of dead calf's body

By AVI SELK
The Washington Post

A grieving orca whale has released the body of her dead calf after carrying it for at least 17 days through the Pacific Ocean in an unprecedented act of mourning, according to researchers.

On Saturday, Tahlequah, as the mother has come to be called, was observed swimming without the body of her calf, according to Center for Whale Research Founder Ken Balcomb.

"Her tour of grief is now over and her behavior is remarkably frisky," read an update on the research center's website.

The center said whale-watchers near Vancouver, British Columbia, had reported seeing Tahlequah without her calf's body last week, but Saturday was the first time researchers were able to confirm those reports.

Tahlequah's mourning had astonished and devastated much of the world. The orca gave birth on July 25 in what should have been a happy milestone for her long-suffering calf.

As Allyson Chiu wrote for The Washington Post, the pod of killer whales that roam between Vancouver and San Juan Island



KEN BALCOMB/Center for Whale Research

Tahlequah pushes her dead calf on the second day of her long, sad journey.

has dwindled to 75 members over the decades. The cause is no mystery: Humans have netted up the whales' salmon, driven ships through their hunting lanes and polluted their water to the point that researchers fear Tahlequah's generation may be the last of her family.

The 400-pound, orange-tinted baby that wriggled out of her that morning was the first live birth in the pod since 2015, Chiu wrote. It lived about half an hour.

People love to anthropomor-

phize animals, often fallaciously. But studies have found that orcas really do possess high levels of intelligence and empathy, and emotions that may not be totally alien to our own.

So, when Tahlequah did not let her emaciated calf sink to the bottom of the Pacific but rather balanced it on her head and pushed it along as she followed her pod, researchers thought they understood what was happening.

"You cannot interpret it any other way," Deborah Giles, a killer

whale biologist with the University of Washington, told Chiu. "This is an animal that is grieving for its dead baby, and she doesn't want to let it go. She's not ready."

That was the beginning of a long funeral procession. "The hours turned into days," Chiu wrote two days after the death. "And on Thursday, she was still seen pushing her baby to the water's surface."

And still the next day, and through the weekend, and into the next week and next month.

The act itself was not unprecedented, but researchers said it was rare to see a mother carry her dead for so long. It couldn't have been easy for her. Tahlequah's pod travels dozens of miles in a day, Chiu wrote, and she pushed her baby's hundreds of pounds every inch of the way. She was forever picking up the body as it sank, hoisting it out of the water to take a breath and reappearing.

At the same time, Tahlequah's obsession had become gravely concerning to researchers. They worried that the effort of pushing her calf — for about 1,000 miles — would make Tahlequah weak and keep her from finding enough food. Fortunately, that doesn't appear to be the case.

But Tahlequah would not let go. Eventually, researchers stopped calling what they were witnessing "rare" and began using the word "unprecedented."

People wrote poems about Tahlequah and drew pictures. People lost sleep thinking about the whale. A scientist crisscrossed of her. Tahlequah inspired politicians and essayists — and a sense of interspecies kinship in some mothers who had also lost children. And still, Tahlequah carried her child. The world's interest in her feat finally grew to encompass her whole family.

Last week, the Times wrote, biologists and government officials began working on a plan to save the youngest living member of Tahlequah's pod — a 3-year-old orca that appears to be on the brink of starvation. They are tracking the young whale — Scarlet — in an attempt to feed her antibiotic-laced salmon.

At the same time, Tahlequah's obsession had become gravely concerning to researchers. They worried that the effort of pushing her calf — for about 1,000 miles — would make Tahlequah weak and keep her from finding enough food. Fortunately, that doesn't appear to be the case.

Devastating algae bloom plagues Fla. Gulf Coast

By TAMARA LUSH
Associated Press

LONGBOAT KEY, Fla. — Tons of dead fish. A small so awful you gag with one inhale. Empty beaches, empty roads, empty restaurants. A toxic algae bloom has overrun Florida's southern Gulf Coast this summer, devastating sea life and driving people from the water.

"I've never seen it this bad," said Heather Lamb, 31, of Venice, Fla. She's a hairdresser and makeup artist who styled herself as a dead fish in a video posted on social media to raise awareness of the problem.

"I feel like it cleanses your soul to go to the beach," she said. "For me to not be able to go, it's painful. I think a lot of people take it for granted when they live in Florida. Some people save their paychecks for a whole year to come here."

Red tide — a naturally occurring toxic algae bloom that can be harmful to people with respiratory problems — has spread throughout the Gulf of Mexico, drifting in the water since it began in October. Stretching about 150 miles, it's affecting communities from Naples in the south to Anna Maria Island in the north and appears to be moving northward.

The algae turns the water toxic for marine life, and in recent weeks, beachgoers have been horrified to find turtles, large fish like goliath grouper and even manatees wash up dead. In late July, a 26-foot-long whale shark washed ashore on Sanibel Island, which is known in its pristine beaches.

In places like Longboat Key, more than 5



CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

Work crews clean up dead fish Aug. 6 along Coquina Beach in Bradenton Beach, Fla.

tons of dead fish have been removed from beaches. This week, nine dead dolphins were found in Sarasota County, and marine biologists are investigating whether the deaths are related to red tide.

The Florida Wildlife Research Institute said the number of dead and stranded sea turtles is nearly three times higher than average. More than 450 stranded and dead sea turtles have been recovered in four affected counties this year, and the institute estimates that 250 to 300 died from red tide poisoning.

In Bradenton Beach, the stench was impossible to ignore. "I can't describe the smell. It's like unbelievable. It makes you throw up," said Holmes Beach resident Alex Kuizon, who has lived in the area for decades. He held a handkerchief over his mouth and nose while talking to a reporter. Just a few feet away, hundreds of dead fish clogged a boat ramp.

Red tide is a natural occurrence that happens due to the presence of nutrients in the water and an organism called a dinoflagellate.

"Off the west coast of Florida, we have persistent red tide events that occur with

some frequency," said Steve Murawski, a marine science professor at the University of South Florida.

Another algae problem plagues Florida's waterways, Murawski said, and confused and frustrated people are conflating the two. Blue-green algae affect fresh water, and Murawski said it has a direct correlation to agricultural and urban runoff.

Heavy May rains caused Lake Okeechobee to discharge water containing blue-green algae into rivers and canals. The bright-green sludge oozed onto docks, dams and rivers.

"Are they, in fact, related? That's kind of an open scientific question," Murawski said. "If you've got large nitrogen discharges, you could actually be fueling both the harmful algal bloom and the discharge of the blue-green algae. It's an area of very active concern."

Why this year's red tide is so intense is up for debate. Some researchers have noticed aggressive blooms after hurricanes. Irma swept past Florida's Gulf Coast in the summer of 2017, and a period of red tide affected Florida after the powerful 2014-05 hurricanes.

'Undetectable' 3D-printed guns detected by TSA airport screeners

By HUGO MARTIN
Los Angeles Times

During the controversy surrounding the release of blueprints for 3D-printed plastic guns, the Transportation Security Administration said airport security screeners have been able to spot the so-called untraceable and undetectable weapons in carry-on bags.

The 3D-printed gun controversy began in June when Defense Distributed, of Austin, Texas, reached a settlement with the federal government to allow it to make the plans for the guns and their 3D printer. Then a federal judge in Seattle issued a temporary restraining order to stop the release of blueprints, and a coalition of 20 state attorneys general filed a motion Aug. 2 to continue to block the release of the plans.

But TSA officials say 3D-printed guns and firearm components have been in circulation for years and have been found on passengers trying to board commercial flights.

Since August 2016, the TSA has detected two 3D-printed guns and two 3D-printed firearm components, all of which were voluntarily abandoned by the passengers who packed them in their carry-on bags, TSA spokesman Michael Biello said.

The most recent component was discovered in January at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas.

"TSA officers are trained and on the lookout for 3D guns," he said. "We have proven detection capabilities and screening protocols in place."

Like all firearms, explosives and replica weapons, 3D-printed guns are prohibited in the cabins of commercial planes.

NATION

Partners
in peaceEx-gang members
act as 'violence
interrupters' in NYCBy STEPHEN R. GROVES
Associated Press

NEW YORK — David Gaskin stepped into the street armed with a bullhorn. Cars swerved. He glares.

The former gang member raised the mic to his lips and preached the message emblazoned on his T-shirt, on his orange baseball cap, on the rubber bands around his wrist and on his Adidas tracksuit: "Stop Shooting. Start Living."

"If you're ready to stand against gun violence, let me hear you say, 'I'm ready!'" he yelled to a gathering crowd.

"I'm ready!" they responded.

Gaskin staked out his spot in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood because that's where a 27-year-old man was shot three days earlier. His rally was part of the playbook for Save Our Streets, or S.O.S., one of a growing number of taxpayer-financed "violence interrupter" groups in the nation's largest city that enlist former gang members to attack shootings like outbreaks of a disease that they must keep from spreading.

This summer, amid a recent uptick in the killings of young people, the violence interrupters have been working overtime — stoking outrage over violent crimes to keep them from being accepted as normal, hanging out in high-crime spots to watch out for trouble, and even personally stepping in to mediate fights, in some cases after guns have been drawn.

"We're the foot soldiers," said Rudy Suggs, a former drug dealer who supervises the violence interrupters for S.O.S. "We're the ones that come out here late at night, looking for the at-risk youth that's out here selling drugs, gambling, doing stuff that they shouldn't be doing."

These troops, mostly come from the ranks of each neighborhood's former gang members, many of whom have served time for their crimes. There are currently 18 violence-interrupter groups in high-crime areas across the city, with four more planned, part of Mayor Bill de Blasio's plans to maintain historically low rates of murder and gun violence while also improving the police's relations with minority communities. Chicago, Baltimore and Philadelphia have similar groups.

"It's less and less the police who are discouraging bad behavior and more and more these organizations that are encouraging good behavior," said Elizabeth Glazer, director of the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, which has a \$34 million annual budget to pay for these and other programs.

Police similarly respond to a shooting by sending in extra officers, and violence interrupters coordinate with them, patrolling by precinct, although both are careful not to step on each other's toes. Sometimes the police will step back to let them mediate a tense situation, but once the police move in, they don't interfere.

Perhaps most importantly, violence interrupters keep their names and conversations confidential from the po-



SETH WENIG/AP

People participate in a Save Our Streets shooting response rally July 24 in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood in New York.



STEPHEN GROVES/AP

Joshua Simon, left, and Lawrence Brown, outreach workers with Save Our Streets, canvas the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood on July 20. Both serve as mentors, teaching young men and women on how to resolve disputes without bloodshed.



STEPHEN GROVES/AP

Lawrence Jackson, the father of Kylon Jackson, 15, grieves during a vigil July 18 at the Bushwick Houses, the site of his son's killing the previous day, in Brooklyn.

lice so they can maintain the trust of the community.

Charles J. Shields, who lives down the block from S.O.S.' Bedford-Stuy, said some residents don't trust the police due to their sometimes-heavy-handed approach. She sees the S.O.S. workers more as partners "there to back us up."

"If we didn't have S.O.S. looking out for our kids, we'd be panicking all day long," she said. "They're doing their job. They need to be in the community."

This year, both the police and the violence interrupters are facing a particular challenge: 16 people between the ages of 10 and 18 have been killed in the city, already matching last year's total. Since May, 15 percent of the homicide victims citywide have been 16 or younger. Among them was Lesandro "Junior" Guzman-Feliz, 15, whose videotaped stabbing in June by a group of men outside a Bronx bodega shocked the city.

Organizations like S.O.S. don't see such killings as random occurrences that can't be stopped. Instead, they are viewed as

a consequence of a sequence of events — such as an argument that starts on a basketball court or a fistfight that leads to a shooting. These small fights turn deadly when they go unchecked, so the violence interrupters step in.

Outreach workers go to the hospital immediately after a violent incident to comfort family members and to make sure there's no retaliation. Within 72 hours after a shooting, they hold a rally at the scene of the crime. With a bullhorn, chants and signs, they wake the neighborhood up to the violence.

"We should be the change-agents that say this is not acceptable," said Tiffany Murray, the S.O.S. program manager in Bed-Stuy, where the storefront office is dominated by signs that are updated daily: "5 Days Since the Last Shooting."

Their tactics were developed by Dr. Gary Slutkin, an epidemiologist who treated infectious disease in developing countries. When he returned home to Chicago and started looking at homicide maps, he realized they looked like the maps of cholera or

HIV outbreaks. He said that the violence outbreaks needed "health workers who have access and availability and trust," like the former gang members of S.O.S.

As they walked the 40-square blocks they patrol one recent sweltering afternoon, Lawrence Brown and Joshua Simon lingered where people play dice, drink or barbecue. If an argument starts to get heated, Simon and Brown step in to cool it down.

"We tend to come into contact with a lot of situations now," Simon said of the summer in Bed-Stuy. "It's hot now, there's more people outside, so people are gathering."

The program seems to be getting results. When S.O.S. opened its Crown Heights program in 2010, the area they patrol had 24 shootings. Last year, there were only three.

Brown and Simon both spent time in prison, an experience they now use to warn younger men about the path they may be headed down.

"It's you in that 6-by-8 cell and you've got to deal with it," Simon tells them. "And when I speak to them like that, they wake up."

WORLD

With power to long rule China, Xi is beset by challenges

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN
Associated Press

BEIJING — As China's leaders gather for their annual Yellow Sea retreat, the country's political waters are looking choppy.

Chinese President and ruling Communist Party leader Xi Jinping is beset by economic, foreign policy and domestic political challenges just months after clearing his way to rule for as long as he wants as China's most dominant leader since Mao Zedong.

Mounting criticism of the Xi administration's policies has exposed the risks he faces from amassing so much power. He's made himself a natural target for blame.

"Having concentrated power, Xi is responsible for all policy setbacks and policy failures," said Joseph Cheng, a retired City University of Hong Kong professor and long-time observer of Chinese politics.

Notably, Xi used to dominate state-run newspapers' front pages

and the state broadcaster CCTV's news bulletins on a daily basis but has in recent weeks made fewer public appearances. "He can't shift the blame, so he's responding by taking a lower profile," Cheng said.

Of greatest concern to many is the trade war with the U.S. that threatens higher tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars of Chinese exports. Critics say they've yet to see a coherent strategy from Beijing that could guide negotiations with Washington and avoid a major blow to the economy. Beijing instead seems to be opting for defiance and retaliatory measures of its own.

Both the stock market and the currency have weakened in response, and the Communist Party itself conceded at a meeting last month that external factors were weighing heavily on economic growth.

At the same time, a scandal over vaccines has reignited long-held fears over the integrity of the health care industry and the



MARK SCHIEFELBEIN/AP

Chinese President Xi Jinping is beset by a wave of economic, foreign policy and domestic political challenges.

government's ability to police the sprawling firms that dominate the economy.

"Trust is the most important thing, and a loss of public confidence in the government could be devastating," said Zhang Ming, a retired professor of political science in Beijing.

Xi's signature project, the trillion-dollar "Belt and Road" initiative to build investment and infrastructure links with 65 nations, is running into headwinds over sticker shock among the countries involved. Some Chinese have also questioned the wisdom of sending vast sums abroad at a time when millions of Chinese remain mired in poverty.

Leaders are likely to discuss at least some of these challenges during informal discussions at the Beidaihe resort in Hebei province

as part of a tradition begun under Mao. Xi and others generally drop out of sight for two weeks or more during the summer session.

A sign of the Xi administration's anxieties is a new campaign to promote patriotism among intellectuals — a recurring tactic when public debate is seen as needing a course correction.

The notice of the new campaign, issued July 31, cites "the broad masses of intellectuals" and the "patriotic spirit of struggle," while giving little in the way of specifics.

Much of the discontent with Xi can be traced to his administration's perceived ineffectiveness, said Zhang, the retired academic.

"If you want to be emperor, you must have great achievements," Zhang said. "He hasn't had any, so it's hard to convince the people."

Boardwalk collapses in Spanish city; 313 hurt

MADRID — An oceanside boardwalk collapsed during a nighttime concert in the Spanish city of Vigo, injuring 313 people, five of them seriously, authorities said Monday.

Many young people were on the port's wooden boardwalk when it gave way around midnight Sunday at the closing event of a three-day festival, officials in the northwestern port city said.

The wooden boards cracked along a central section, and people slid into the sea below, emergency services said.

The five people who were seriously hurt did not have life-threatening injuries, officials said.

The president of the Vigo port authority, Enrique Cesar Lopez Veiga, said he suspects there was a structural problem in the boardwalk, which is supported by concrete pillars.

He told Cadena Ser radio that the boardwalk collapsed "probably because of excessive weight" on it.

Death toll from Indonesia earthquake passes 430

JAKARTA, Indonesia — The death toll from the earthquake that rocked the Indonesian island of Lombok a week ago has passed 430, and the government is estimating economic losses will exceed several hundred million dollars.

The national disaster agency said Monday the Aug. 5 quake killed 436 people, most of whom died in collapsing buildings.

It said damage to homes, infrastructure and other property is at least \$342 million, calling that a temporary figure that will rise as more assessments are made. The agency said rebuilding will cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

The magnitude 7.0 quake flattened thousands of homes and, according to the disaster agency's latest estimate, has displaced about 350,000 people.

"The damage and losses are very large," said disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho.

He said damaged roads were hindering access to isolated mountainous areas and helicopters had been deployed by the disaster agency, the military and the search and rescue agency to distribute aid.

9 people killed in Taiwan nursing home fire

TAIPEI, Taiwan — A fire at a nursing home in Taiwan early Monday left nine people dead and 16 injured.

Authorities were still investigating the cause of the blaze that broke out before 5 a.m. and was extinguished roughly one hour later.

No details were immediately available about those who had died, although the fire department said 10 of the injured were in serious condition.

The nursing home attached to Taipei Hospital had 32 patients on the ward, along with 11 nurses, helpers and foreign caregivers.

From The Associated Press

Mexico's Obrador proposes train to remote tourist areas

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Mexico's president-elect wants to bring tourist revenues to remote and forgotten stretches of Mexico, but some are scratching their heads at his main proposal: to build a \$3.2 billion train that would run from the resort of Cancun to the Mayan ruins of Palenque, 520 miles across the Yucatan peninsula.

The route is dotted by low jungle, wildlife reserves, pre-Hispanic archaeological sites, wetlands and underground rivers that can suddenly cease to exist. It would take years to build, and soak up scarce money, just to reach ruin sites like Calakmul, which now gets only about 35,000 visitors a year — the number better-known sites like Chichen Itza have in a week.

For those who like the plan proposed by Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, it's all about getting people off the beaten track.

"Tourists today prefer other types of tourism projects that are more in contact with

nature. ... They are showing less interest in the coast," said Vicente Ferreyra, a Cancun-based consultant whose Sustentur company specializes in sustainable tourism.

Few doubt that the first stretch of proposed train — from Cancun through the Riviera Maya to Tulum — would be heavily used. Almost 7 million international tourists visit this stretch of coast every year, many of them arriving at the Cancun airport and then taking buses or driving down the coast.

While resorts have been popping up south of Cancun since the 1990s, most hotel workers still live in Cancun, which was founded in 1974. So huge numbers of tourism workers could also use the train to get to their jobs, a trip that can currently take them an hour and a half or more.

But it's not clear whether the train would have stops at Playa del Carmen or other busy resorts that would be destinations for the tourists and workers. The initial plan shows it making its only Maya Riviera stop in Tulum

before heading farther south.

It is the second, southern stretch from Tulum to the unpicturesque Maya town of Felipe Carrillo Puerto, just southwest of the Sian Ka'an environmental reserve, then on to Bacalar, the state capital of Chetumal, Calakmul and Palenque that raises more questions.

It is not the first time that ambitious rail projects have been proposed — then forgotten — in the region.

In 2012, current President Enrique Pena Nieto announced that he would build a rapid-train link connecting the Riviera Maya with the colonial city of Merida, passing by the ruins of Chichen Itza and the city of Valladolid. The \$1.5 billion project would have connected already developed tourist destinations on a heavily traveled, well-known route.

It was canceled in 2015 due to a lack of funds, but some still say it made more sense than the much longer project being pushed by Lopez Obrador, who takes office Dec. 1.

Turkish central bank trying to contain currency crisis

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkey's central bank announced a series of measures Monday to free up cash for banks as the country grapples with a currency crisis sparked by concerns over President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's economic policies and a trade and diplomatic dispute with the United States.

The Turkish lira has nosedived over the past week and tumbled

another 7 percent Monday as the central bank's measures failed to restore investor confidence.

The currency hit a record low of 7.23 per dollar late on Sunday after Erdogan, in a series of speeches over the week, showed no sign of backing down in the standoff against the United States, a NATO ally.

Erdogan ruled out the possibility of higher interest rates, which economists say are needed to sta-

bilize the currency. And he threatened to seek new alliances and partners and warned of drastic measures if businesses withdraw foreign currency from banks.

Simon Derrick, chief currency strategist at BNY Mellon, said that in the absence of a decisive rate increase, "it is ... hard to look at these announcements as being anything more than temporary calming measures, rather than solutions to the problems at hand."

The lira recovered some of its losses after Berat Albayrak, the country's finance chief — and Erdogan's son-in-law — said late Sunday that the government had readied an "action plan" to ease market concerns, without elaborating.

He also said the government had no plans to seize foreign currency deposits or convert deposits to the Turkish lira.

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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Google tracks your movements, like it or not

By RYAN NAKASHIMA

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Google wants to know where you go so badly that it records your movements even when you explicitly tell it not to.

An Associated Press investigation found that many Google services on Android devices and iPhones store your location data even if you've used privacy settings that say they will prevent it from doing so.

Computer-science researchers at Princeton confirmed these findings at the AP's request.

For the most part, Google is upfront about asking permission to use your location information. An app like Google Maps will remind you to allow access to location if you use it for navigating. If you agree to let it record your location over time, Google Maps will display that history for you in a "timeline" that maps out your daily movements.

Storing your minute-by-minute travels carries privacy risks and has been used by police to determine the location of suspects such as a warrant that police in Raleigh, N.C., served on Google last year to find devices near a murder scene. So the company will let you "pause" a setting called Location History.

Google says that will prevent the company from remembering where you've been. Google's support page on the subject states: "You can turn off Location History at any time. With Location History off, the places you go are no longer stored."

That isn't true. Even with Location History paused, some Google apps automatically store time-stamped location data without asking.

For example, Google stores a snapshot of where you are when

you merely open its Maps app. Automatic daily weather updates on Android phones pinpoint roughly where you are. And some searches that have nothing to do with location, like "chocolate chip cookies" or "kids science kits," pinpoint your precise latitude and longitude — accurate to the square foot — and save it to your Google account.

The privacy issue affects some 2 billion users. Devices that run Google's Android operating system and hundreds of millions of worldwide iPhones who rely on Google for maps or search.

Storing location data in violation of a user's preferences is wrong, said Jonathan Mayer, a Princeton computer scientist and former chief technologist for the Federal Communications Commission's enforcement bureau. A researcher from Mayer's lab confirmed the AP's findings on multiple Android devices. The AP conducted its own tests on several iPhones that found the same behavior.

"If you're going to allow users to turn off something called 'Location History,' then all the places where you maintain location history should be turned off," Mayer said. "That seems like a pretty straightforward position to have."

Google says it is being perfectly clear. "There are a number of different ways that Google may use location data to improve people's experience, including: Location History, Web and App Activity, and through device-level Location Services," a Google spokesperson said in a statement to the AP. "We provide clear descriptions of these tools and robust controls so people can turn them on or off and delete their histories at any time."

To stop Google from saving these location markers, the company says, users can turn off another setting, one that does not

specifically reference location information. Called "Web and App Activity" and enabled by default, that setting stores a variety of information from Google apps and websites to your Google account.

When paused, it will prevent activity on any device from being saved to your account. But leaving "Web & App Activity" on and turning "Location History" off only prevents Google from adding

'They build advertising information out of data. More data for them presumably means more profit.'

Peter Lenz
Distillery

its a painstaking process since you have to select them individually, unless you want to delete all of your stored activity.

You can see the stored location markers on a page in your Google account at myactivity.google.com, although they're typically scattered under several different headers, many of which are unrelated to location.

To demonstrate how powerful these other markers can be, the AP created a visual map of the movements of Princeton postdoctoral researcher Guner Acar, who carried an Android phone with Location History off and shared a record of his Google account.

The map includes Acar's train commute on two trips to New York and visits to High Line park, Chelsea Market, Hell's Kitchen, Central

Park and Harlem. To protect his privacy, AP didn't plot the most telling and frequent marker — his home address.

Huge tech companies are under increasing scrutiny over their data practices following a series of privacy scandals at Facebook and new data-privacy rules recently adopted by the European Union. Last year, the business news site Quartz found that Google was tracking Android users by collecting the addresses of nearby cellphone towers even if all location services were off. Google changed the practice and insisted it never recorded the data anyway.

Critics say Google's insistence on tracking its users' locations stems from its drive to boost advertising revenue.

"They build advertising information out of data," said Peter Lenz, the senior geospatial analyst at Distillery, a rival advertising technology company. "More data for them presumably means more profit."

The AP learned of the issue from K. Shankari, a graduate researcher at the University of California, Berkeley, who studies the commuting patterns of volunteers in order to help urban planners. She noticed that her Android phone prompted her to rate a shopping trip to Kohl's, even though she had turned Location History off.

"So how did Google Maps know where I was?" she asked in a blog post.

The AP wasn't able to re-create Shankari's experience exactly. But its attempts to do so revealed Google's tracking. The findings disturbed her.

"I am not opposed to background location tracking in principle," she said. "It just really bothers me that it is not explicitly stated."



SETH WENIG/AP

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Aug. 14)	\$1.1710
Dollar buys (Aug. 14)	€0.8654
British pound (Aug. 14)	\$1.31
Japanese yen (Aug. 14)	108.00
South Korean won (Aug. 14)	1,066.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3772
British pound	\$1.2783
Canada (dollar)	1.3126
China (Yuan)	6.8821
Denmark (Krone)	6.5227
Egypt (Pound)	17.9000
Euro	\$1.1427/0.8751
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8499
Hungary (Forint)	283.37
Israel (Shekel)	3.6955
Japan (Yen)	110.91
Kuwait (Dinar)	3.3034
Norway (Krone)	8.3504
Philippines (Peso)	53.35
Poland (Zloty)	3.76
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7509
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3744
South Korea (Won)	1,131.98
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9938
Thailand (Baht)	33.32
Turkey (Lira)	6.8552

Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For non-military currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

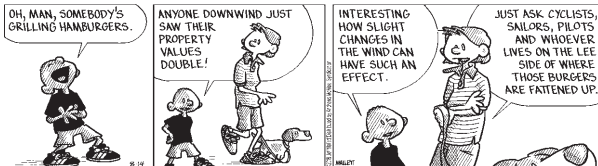
Prime rate	5.00
Discount rate	2.50
Federal funds market rate	3.51
3-month bill	2.01
30-year bond	3.03

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



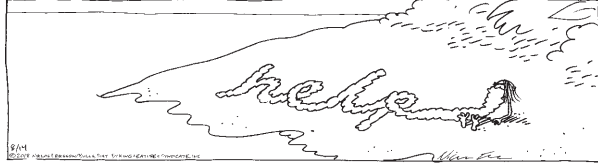
Non Sequitur



Candorville



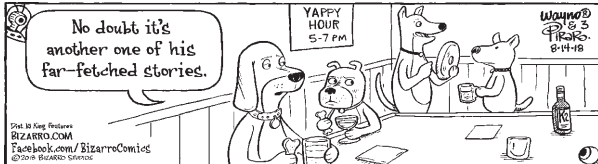
Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15					16			17		
18					19			20		
		21				22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30					31			32		
33			34	35			36	37		
					38			39		
40	41	42			43			44	45	46
47					48			49		
50					51			52		
53					54			55		

ACROSS

- 1 Bridal accessory
- 5 Cato's 502
- 8 Sleeve end
- 12 Mater lead-in
- 13 Ornate vase
- 14 "Got it"
- 15 Some corp. recruits
- 16 Magic cures
- 18 Spring flowers
- 20 Endures
- 21 On in years
- 22 Abysmal
- 23 Aplomb
- 26 Straw hats
- 30 Yoko of music
- 31 Trail the pack
- 32 Past
- 33 Black leopard
- 36 Top picks, for short
- 38 Feedbag tidbit
- 39 Baseball's Ripken
- 40 Used a broom
- 43 Flapjack
- 47 Catered (to)
- 49 "It can't be!"
- 50 Saxophone range
- 51 Metal source
- 52 Blood vessel
- 53 Trudge

DOWN

- 54 However
- 55 911 responders
- 25 Charged bit
- 26 Standard
- 27 Dallas hooper, briefly
- 28 Candle count
- 29 "Mayday!"
- 31 Allow
- 34 Head honcho
- 35 Abhor
- 36 Enthusiast
- 37 Niche
- 39 West Pointer
- 40 Hot tubs
- 41 Humpty's perch
- 42 Within (Pref.)
- 43 Andean land
- 44 Throat clearer
- 45 Make a scarf
- 46 Billions of years
- 48 Filch

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	A	I	D	S	P	A	E	L	B	E
L	U	R	E	U	R	L	M	E	E	K
O	R	E	L	B	E	E	R	P	O	N
B	A	D	E	G	G	S	H	I	N	E
T	A	R	A	O	R	A				
L	I	F	E	L	O	N	G	E	R	S
A	V	A	T	U	T	E	E	D	O	N
B	E	N	Z	P	R	O	M	S	O	N
D	I	A	A	L	M	A				
E	L	A	N	D	S	O	A	F	I	S
D	I	N	G	D	O	N	G	A	R	L
E	D	G	E	L	I	T	R	A	I	N
N	O	O	R	E	T	C				

8-14

CRYPTOQUIP

KJ SYP OPFZSY KZ IPFPNU
TOZPM HTM VYSMPFF KZ
JTNNU KFMV, HP ZTFP MS

ZPMMNP MXP IVQPPF.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FAMOUS SINGER OF THE DISCO ERA WHO WAS KNOWN TO BE A BIG FAN OF HITCHHIKING: DONNA THUMBER.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals M

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Residents divided in goose dispute

NY BRIGHTWATERS — Residents of a Long Island village are divided over what to do about a glut of goose droppings around town.

Brightwaters Mayor John Valdini told Newsday in a story published Sunday that the village has gotten about a dozen complaints about its Canada goose population in recent months. But the village has also gotten calls from residents who want to protect the birds.

Resident Peter Resing said his home is so coated in goose droppings that he's worried about letting his grandchildren play there. He said "something needs to be done."

Residents discussed goose-control methods with state environmental officials at an informal meeting last week.

WWII museum, ASU create online degree

LA NEW ORLEANS — The National World War II Museum and Arizona State University are starting a new online master's degree program in World War II studies, with classes beginning in January.

A news release described it as offering the nation's only graduate degree in World War II history.

Online material said students must meet assignment deadlines, but the only other schedule requirements are weekly interactions with faculty and student discussion groups.

Students must take 10 three-hour classes.

Construction workers find dinosaur bone

FL CAPE CORAL — Construction workers in southwest Florida uncovered a mammoth or mastodon bone that could be 2 million years old.

The News-Press in Fort Myers reported that workers found the bone earlier this summer while digging for a utility extension.

The Florida Museum of Natural History said the bone doesn't have enough characteristics to determine if it was a mammoth or mastodon, elephant-like mammoths last roamed the area starting about 2 million years ago until about 12,000 years ago.

Boa constrictor found under hood of car

MA STOUGHTON — One Massachusetts resident popped their car hood to check fluids and found a boa constrictor staring right back.

The Stoughton Police Department said a resident called the office Saturday morning after finding the snake.

The animal was safely captured by Animal Control officers who responded to the scene. No one was injured.

The department joked on Facebook that brave officers "without having ever gone to snake charming school," headed out to capture

THE CENSUS

69 The number of external hard drives that were purchased and returned to Target stores with the boxes filled with Play-Doh. Polk County, Fla., sheriff's officials allege that Jose Rivera spent about \$6,200 buying 69 hard drives from 16 different Targets in several central Florida counties in January. Authorities allege Rainer Bentilan then returned the boxes with lumps of child's clay that had a weight similar to that of the hard drives. The Florida Attorney General's Office issued warrants charging both men with organized scheme to defraud and conspiracy to commit organized scheme to defraud.



DAVE KETTERING, (DUBUQUE, IOWA) TELEGRAPH HERALD/AP

A helping hand

Lifeguard Caleb Perreard assists a dog that was struggling to get out of the pool during the Doggie Dip at Nicholas J. Sutton Swimming Pool in Dubuque, Iowa, on Saturday. Saturday was the last day of the pool season at Sutton.

this "fire-breathing dragon." Animal control will keep custody of the snake for the time being. There is no information about how the boa constrictor managed to get under the car hood.

Shelters pitch in to help 91 dogs found in home

IL BENTON — Animal shelters across Illinois are pitching in to care for 91 dogs found in a home authorities describe as having "deplorable" conditions.

The Southern Illinoisan reported the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and Animal Control discovered the dogs after responding to a complaint of cruel treatment of animals at a home in the southern Illinois community of Macedonia.

Animal Control Officer Paris Dunk said some dogs were emaciated or blind. Officers believe the animals never left the home. A woman and her two adult sons were charged with animal cruelty.

Sighting of rare hawk draws eager birders

ME BIDDEFORD — Bird lovers were driving from hundreds of miles away for a rare chance to see a species of non-native hawk in southern Maine.

Maine Audubon naturalist Doug Hitchcox said the great black hawk might be the most unusual bird identified in the state in decades. It was seen in Biddeford on Thursday. The bird is native to Central and South America.

The hawk stands about 2 feet tall. Hitchcox said it's unclear how it got to Maine. One was seen in Texas earlier this year.

Man dies after heroin swallowed during raid

WI MILWAUKEE — Authorities said a 60-year-old man died after he and others apparently swallowed packets of heroin during a federal drug bust on homes on Milwaukee's north side.

Authorities said James Coleman died Thursday while in custody at the Waukesha County Jail.

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported the FBI, Milwaukee police and other law enforcement agencies raided several homes early Wednesday as part of a bust targeting a gang with Chicago connections that was moving kilograms of heroin in Milwaukee.

Cops escort son of hurt officer to kindergarten

FL ORLANDO — A group of Florida police officers escorted the son of their wounded comrade to his first day of kindergarten.

Caleb's father, Officer Kevin Valencia, was shot in the face in June while responding to a domestic violence call in which the suspect killed four children before taking his own life. Valencia is in a coma and is being treated in Atlanta.

Orlando Police Chief John Mina said members of Valencia's squad took Caleb and his mother

to school Friday.

Mina said it was an emotional day, but the boy was excited to show off his Lego Batman book bag.

Beaver that attacked man, daughter was rabid

PA BIGLERVILLE — Authorities said a beaver that attacked a man and his daughter during a kayak trip in Pennsylvania was rabid.

State health officials said that the beaver tested positive for the virus after it was sent for testing by the state game commission.

Dan Wherley and his daughter, Layla, 7, were kayaking Sunday on the Conewago Creek with their dog when the beaver relentlessly gnawed on his paddle and eventually swam right for his daughter. He fought off the animal while his daughter made it to land.

Wherley said he initially intended to retreat and not harm the beaver, but he eventually killed it to protect himself and his child.

From wire reports

FACES



Casey Affleck

LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

Casey Affleck breaks silence

Actor admits to being a bad boss on set of 'I'm Still Here'

By KATE FELDMAN
New York Daily News

Casey Affleck — who faced a #MeToo backlash involving two previously-settled sexual harassment lawsuits — says he “learned a lot” after disappearing from the public spotlight.

But in his first interview in more than a year, Affleck talked more about his past legal issues than the accusations.

“That I was ever involved in a conflict that resulted in a lawsuit is something that I really regret. I wish I had found a way to resolve things in a different way. I hate that. I had never had any complaints like that made about me before in my life and it was really embarrassing and I didn’t know how to handle it and I didn’t agree with everything, the way I was being described, and the things that were said about me, but I wanted to try to make it right, so we made it right in the way that was asked for at the time,” Affleck told the Associated Press in the interview, released Aug. 9.

“And we all agreed to just try to put it behind us and move on with our lives.”

The 42-year-old actor faced two lawsuits in 2010 stem-

ming from his mockumentary “I’m Still Here.” Cinematographer Magdalena Gorka claimed that he climbed into bed with her while she was sleeping; she said that “his breath reeked of alcohol.” Producer Amanda White claimed Affleck frequently referred to women as “cows” on set, discussed his “sexual exploits” and attempted to manipulate her into staying in a hotel room with him.

Affleck has denied all allegations of sexual misconduct.

The accusations resurfaced in light of the #MeToo movement, which sprung to light soon after his Oscar-winning “Manchester by the Sea.” Affleck dropped out as an Oscars presenter for 2018, saying he didn’t want to be a distraction.

Affleck said he’s spent the last few years “listening.” What he’s learned, he told AP, is that he was a bad boss. “I contributed to that unprofessional environment and I tolerated that kind of behavior from other people and I wish that I hadn’t. And I regret a lot of that,” he said.

“I really did not know what I was responsible for as the boss. I don’t even know if I thought of myself as the boss. But I behaved in a way and allowed others to behave in a way that was really unprofessional. And I’m sorry.”

‘The Meg’ surprises with \$44.5M movie debut

From wire services

Warner Bros.’ over-the-top sci-fi thriller “The Meg” took an unexpectedly massive chomp out of the North American box office over the weekend with \$44.5 million in ticket sales, according to figures from measurement firm ComScore.

The PG-13 film, about a giant prehistoric shark that terrorizes beachgoers, more than doubled analysts’ projections of \$18 million to \$22 million and is the biggest August opening since “Suicide Squad” two years ago. Released simultaneously in the U.S. and China, it earned \$96.8 million internationally (including \$50.3 million in China) for a global cumulative of \$141.3 million.

Starring action vet Jason Statham as a deep-sea rescue driver who is the only man capable of defeating the 70-foot carnivore, “The Meg” cost at least \$130 million to produce, according to estimates, and is based on an obscure 1997 pulp novel.

Impossible — Fallout, now in its third weekend, added \$20 million for a cumulative \$162 million.

Disney’s “Christopher Robin” came in third, adding an additional \$12.4 million in its second weekend for a cumulative \$50 million.

Sony Screen Gems’ horror movie “Slender Man” debuted at No. 4 with \$11.3 million.

Director Spike Lee got his third best debut with the drama “BlackKkKlansman,” which opened with \$10.8 million. Based on true events, “BlackKkKlansman” tells the story of an undercover black detective who manages to infiltrate the Ku Klux Klan.

“Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again” crossed the \$100 million mark over the weekend with \$103.8 million in four weeks and Disney’s “Ant-Man and the Wasp” crossed the \$200 million mark in its sixth week with \$203.5 million, becoming the 16th movie in the Marvel Cinematic Universe to do so.

Elba’s tweet stirs Bond rumors

British actor Idris Elba is stoking speculation he may take over the role of James Bond when Daniel Craig steps aside, offering an enigmatic Twitter post that fueled the buzz about him becoming the first black Bond.

The star of shows such as “The Wire” and “Luther” on Sunday posted an artistic selfie under the words “my name’s Elba, Idris Elba,” echoing the spy’s famous catchphrase.

British actor Idris Elba is stoking speculation he may take over the role of James Bond when Daniel Craig steps aside, offering an enigmatic Twitter post that fueled the buzz about him becoming the first black Bond.



Elba

stoked long-running speculation about Elba taking on the role last week, when he told Britain’s Daily Star that Bond movie boss Barbara Broccoli had said “it is time” for a non-white actor to play agent 007.

But before fans go overboard, Elba posted another tweet a few hours later saying, “Don’t believe the HYPE. ...”

Other news

■ A man who falsely claimed he represented big-name artists, including musicians like Migos, Lil Yachty and Lil Uzi Vert, and duped clients out of money has been sentenced to serve three years and 10 months in federal prison. Prosecutors say **Octaveon Woods** of Decatur, Ill., created an elaborate scheme by posing as a booking agent for famous entertainers. He scammed colleges, universities and others by fraudulently booking shows when he had no relationship with the artists.

■ **V.S. Naipaul**, the Trinidad-born Nobel laureate whose precise and lyrical writing in such novels as “A Bend in the River” and “A House for Mr. Biswas” and brittle, misanthropic personality made him one of the world’s most admired and contentious writers, died at his London home, his family said. He was 85.

West says he wasn’t ‘stumped’ by Kimmel

Rapper Kanye West, who is as well-known for his occasional social media rants and always quotable interviews as he is his musical genius, sought to clarify something on Twitter on Aug. 11. A few days before, West had appeared on ABC’s “Jimmy Kimmel Live!” to apparently bury the hatchet in a years-long feud that most people probably forgot about.

During their on-air hug-it-out session, Kimmel and West talked about everything from Yezees and art school, to his wife, Kim Kardashian, being alone in the Oval Office with President Donald Trump, to West’s own politics. Of course, that’s when things got tricky. Although he claims to not have voted in the last presidential election, West has professed his support of his fellow “dragon energy” wielder Donald Trump. But just a week earlier, during her own appearance on Kimmel’s show, Kardashian said the rapper isn’t “political” and doesn’t “dig deep” into policy.

Kimmel tested that theory Aug. 9 when he asked West — who said that critics of Trump should “try love” — and end divisiveness “by thinking of everyone as our family” — about the president’s actual policies.

“That’s a beautiful thought,” said Kimmel, before pointing out that families were being separated at the U.S.-Mexico border as a result of Trump’s immigration policies. “Whether we like his personality or not,” Kimmel continued, “his actions are really what matter.”

Then the late-night host dug deeper: “You so famously and so powerfully said ‘George Bush doesn’t care about black people.’ It makes me wonder what makes you think that Donald Trump does, or any people at all?”

West took a long pause. Kimmel threw it to commercial break, and the rapper never ended up answering the question. The moment led most to believe that West was unable to confront his own contradictions. The next day, Trump even thanked the rapper via Twitter for supporting him.

But West told a different story Aug. 11. He tweeted:

“On Jimmy Kimmel we had a great time having a dialogue. I’m reading that I was stumped by a question. Let me clarify the cliché bait. I wasn’t stumped. I wasn’t given a chance to answer.”

“The question was so important I took time to think. And then I was hit with the let’s go to commercial break. That interview showed different personalities with different opinions having a civil conversation.”

“I was so happy when I saw Jimmy walk out in the Yezees. That was an olive branch. He lead with love. I appreciate Jimmy and his team. You guys are Jedi’s much love.”

But instead of answering the “important” question, West’s final tweet on the subject (for now) simply thanked the late-night show’s team, and shouted out his own shoe line. So the world still has to wait a little bit longer for clarity.

— Helena Andrews O’Leary
The Washington Post

SHIFTING GEARS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALFA ROMEO

Compact crossover thinks it's a roadster

By BARRY SPYKER
Tribune News Service

Guess it should come as no surprise that legendary Italian roadster maker Alfa Romeo would target driving enthusiasts with its first entry into the highly competitive premium-crossover segment. Leave the practical stuff and elegant niceties for the other guys.

Alfa's 2018 Stelvio planted the start button right on the racy flat-bottom leather wheel. Flip it into Dynamic mode and watch this compact crossover sprint to 60 mph in 5.4 seconds, then cruise through the S curves like a cobra on steroids. Does this thing know it's not a roadster?

The Stelvio, named for a long and winding road in the Italian Alps, is blessed with Alfa's iconic triangular grille and two side air intakes. It has nicely sculpted side panels and a cut-off tail that pays homage to the maker's roots in racing.

Under the hood of the Stelvio Sport is an aluminum 2.0-liter inline-4-cylinder engine that gets 280 hp and 306 pound-feet of torque. It's mated to a sometimes quirky eight-speed automatic transmission with manual mode — operated by two amusingly large paddle shifters.

It is likely the quickest four-banger in its class and will hit the quarter-mile marker in 14 seconds. And it's arguably one of

the best handling crossovers on the road, aided by Alfa's Q4 all-wheel-drive system that is rear-biased but can transfer up to

2018 Alfa Romeo Stelvio Sport



Base price: \$43,795

As tested: \$53,585 (includes Static and Dynamic safety packages, \$2,300; 3D navigation and 8.8-inch display, \$1,550; Harman Kardon sound system, \$900; dual-pane sunroof, \$1,350)

What's all the excitement about? Alfa Romeo's new Stelvio looks like a compact crossover but it drives like a sports car.

Powertrain: 2.0-liter turbo inline 4-cylinder, mated to 8-speed automatic transmission

How's the performance? 0-60 mph in 5.4 seconds, quarter mile in 14 ticks

What about fuel economy? Better than average for the segment: EPA-rated at 22 mpg city, 28 highway, for 24 mpg combined

TNS

60 percent of the power to the front when needed. It hugs curves with little body lean and scampers out of them with cat-like grace.

Monitoring and adjusting throttle and stiffness are separate driving modes Alfa calls DNA — Dynamic, Natural and Advanced Efficiency. A fourth mode, Race, speaks for itself. There are no off-road modes, however.

Steering is light and quick to respond, helping to make the two-ton crossover feel leaner. And standard on all Stelvios are gloss-red Brembo brakes: four-piston front calipers with 13-inch rotors up front, single-piston with 12.5-inch rotors in the rear.

One issue around town is the sluggish stop-start function; better to turn it off although that would affect mileage slightly. Stelvio scores high in fuel economy, earning an EPA-rated 22 mpg city, 28 highway, better than average for this class.

Inside, Stelvio Sport has a clean and simple design and can be appointed with walnut trim and leather-wrapped door panels and accent stitching. Seats are comfortable and adjusted with 10-way power which should accommodate the needs of most.

An optional 3D navigation system with an 8.8-inch display (\$1,550) is sharp and bright but can be frustrating in its function. It's controlled with a rotary dial,

rather than touchscreen, and feels outdated. Check with your dealer to make sure Apple CarPlay and Android Auto are available since they were not earlier in the production year but were expected later.

The standard sound system is OK but an upgraded 14-speaker Harman Kardon system is worth the extra \$900 bucks if you can swing it.

Cargo space, accessed through an available hands-free liftgate, is below average for the segment but most will find it adequate. With 18.5 cubic feet of space, there's plenty of space for two sets of golf clubs or beach chairs and a cooler. Drop the rear seats and it opens up 56 cubic feet of space.

Advanced safety features cost extra on the Sport trim, including a "Static" package (\$800) for parking sensors and blind-spot monitors, and a "Dynamic" package (\$1,500) that gets the good stuff: adaptive cruise with full-stop, forward collision warning with auto braking and lane departure warning.

While Stelvio may lag among its German foes (i.e., Audi Q5 and Mercedes GLC) in premium features and interior space, it makes up for it with dashing looks and performance. And if it's even higher performance you seek, check out Quadrifoglio version. It has a twin-turbo, 505-hp V-6 and races to 60 in under four seconds.

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OPINION

No easy answer for Confederate monuments

By NIELS EICHORN

Special To The Washington Post

The question of Confederate monuments — around which neo-Nazis gathered last year ago Sunday in Charlottesville, Va. — remains unresolved. Should Americans eliminate the memorials to Confederate generals and soldiers the way Germany eliminated monuments to Nazis? The answer isn't a simple yes or no. In fact, Germany's battle over the commemorative landscape provides a stark lesson in this regard.

The presence of Nazi leaders and ideology remains embedded in monuments, street names and church bells of Germany. And Nazi monuments have emboldened modern-day neo-Nazis and the troubling Reichsbürger, a political movement whose goal is to overthrow the modern German state, providing a rallying place for people eager to reclaim Nazi history and assert its contemporary relevance.

The tale of the Kriegerdenkmal, a military memorial in Berlin, reveals that reconciliation with the past does not mean erasing the past is a constant battle that requires an honest and open dialogue that produces accurate monuments, not simply a proliferation of dueling monuments.

In March 1936, Nazi leaders, along with military and veterans organizations, unveiled Richard Kuhl's Kaiserdenkmal in a high-profile dedication ceremony. The monument's location was purposefully selected for the high volume of traffic passing by the nearby Dammtor Station.

Roughly 29 feet long, 13 feet wide and 23 feet high, made from shell-bearing limestone, the monument features marching soldiers on three sides to remember Hamburg's soldiers from the Franco-Prussian War and World War I. Above the soldiers is a poem about the farewell of soldiers, instilling the idea that soldiers have to perish for the country to survive.

With war on the horizon for Nazi Germany, the message of the monument was clear: Sacrifice was noble and expected.

The monument reflected the celebration of militarism in Nazi Germany. After World War I, monuments to fallen soldiers had appeared across Germany. After the Nazi takeover in 1933, these monuments grew in symbolism. Monuments called for courage, willingness to fight and confidence in victory, marked by symbols such as eagles and swords.

After World War II, the Allied powers attempted to eradicate all monuments to Nazism in Germany. The Allied Control Council mandated the removal of all monuments, museums, statues, structures or plaques that celebrated German militarism or Nazism. They saw these as nurturing German militarism, which many allied leaders thought had helped spur two devastating wars in a 30-year period.

And yet the Kriegerdenkmal remained because its meaning and symbolism were more ambiguous. For some Germans, it assumed a new meaning of sacrifice related to the Cold War. But it also offered a rallying point for neo-Nazis and veterans groups, many of them with right-wing political identities. Some organizations raised the argument for removal of the memorial.

When the local governing council decided to remove the militaristic poem, the Springer Verlag newspaper chain started a campaign against the removal of the memorial "from the monument. A right-wing initiative formed. Eventually, the city's Senate decided to leave the monument unaltered.

By the 1980s, the debate over removal had subsided. Instead, city leaders pushed to change the landscape around the memorial. Austrian sculptor Alfred Hrdlicka won a competition to determine what to do with the space by proposing several monuments to address the impact of war on the civilian population and the suffering of war refugees. The third and fourth parts of the monument on Nazi justice and women remain unaltered.

The result is that the Kriegerdenkmal is now a site with a monument and counter-monuments, creating a public commemorative landscape that offers something for all sides, while also serving as a provocation for all sides as well. Neo-Nazi rallies continue to occur at the Kriegerdenkmal to celebrate Germany's military past and calls for a revival of Nazism. On the other side, peace activists have gathered at the monument to protest war.

The already busy monument landscape at Hamburg's Dammtor got even more complicated when the city decided in 2012 to add a monument to deserters who were shot by the Nazi regime. The triangular monument is right behind the Kriegerdenkmal, consisting of two bronze grates in the form of writing. This monument honors the brave men who refused military service or deserted the Nazi-led armies and paid the ultimate price.

The contested memorial landscape around the Kriegerdenkmal should serve as a cautionary tale. Hamburg has done much to memorialize soldiers, the cruelty and suffering of war and those who refused to fight. By leaving the original monument in place, however, as "historical facts (that) can not be removed," the city also left alive a place for neo-Nazi groups to rally.

This does not mean that all Confederate monuments should be removed from public places. But leaders should proceed with caution when determining their fate. Building counter-monuments cannot scrub the meaning of the original from a site. As long as the original statues remain and serve as a rallying point, alternatives will not serve their intended purpose of making people think about the flaws of the original.

Only after societies honestly face and address the dark areas of their past do monuments and counter-monuments serve their purpose of giving voice to the many voices involved.

Niels Eichorn is a Civil War historian and assistant professor at Middle Georgia State University.

DODEA students deserve fully funded schools

By SHAZIA OLIVARES

Special to Stars and Stripes

In the land of prosperity and freedom, we value the education of our nation's future — but what does this mean for military veterans' children who are suffering from the consequences being so blatantly ignored? As a military dependent who has attended a total of eight state and Department of Defense Education Activity schools, I experienced large differences in quality of education.

These schools are not under the Department of Education, so many might expect. On base, we had four English teachers in one year, one person coaching every sport, and recycled, decades-old sports uniforms with stains. We retook classes from switching state curricula, and missed out on assumed opportunities like honors, advanced placement and international baccalaureate courses. My friends were forced to move off base to attend state schools, as I did when I lived with my aunt in Florida.

There is a disconnect between families and decision-makers, and we must be heard. The Department of Defense must provide the resources and share the responsibility with the state.

Less than 1 percent of the DOD budget is spent on our K-12 schools worldwide and it is expected to lower. This is a crisis that creates an opportunity gap for 88,000 military-connected children.

About 80 percent of eligible students choose to go to school off base, and total

enrollment in DODEA is dropping. My neighbor Sal is an 8-year-old dependent and when DODEA school buses got a budget cut, the community stepped in to keep children like him from walking over a mile to class. Parents indicate that they are not confident in DODEA, and they prioritize their children's education over work.

The military's education system is the base we move to, but we should have final say in what kind of schools we attend. These circumstances are a disservice to our veterans and do not work. Substantive change is long overdue.

DODEA schools need to operate like local schools, while the DOD and the state share funding and responsibility. The Government Accountability Office reports that this would save the government up to \$88 million and increase the state budget by less than 1 percent. DODEA schools would even receive more funds as states would increase the federal impact aid from lost property tax revenue and military children enrolling in local state schools. This is something that should have happened sooner, and America must invest in our youth.

The current administration is handing over DODEA schools to states to reduce costs, starting in Quantico, Va. This would not account for schools like Fort Campbell that are in two states, or local school districts that are not performing any better. This would also hurt military dependents' chances to participate in extracurricular activities because they will

not want to choose a child who is about to move, and they require the child to wait an entire year for the next tryouts.

The National Education Association also argues that states do not have the special expertise in dependents who are perpetually the "new kid" and dealing with the psychological effects of deployed parents. Students and parents alike find security and support in their military community where everyone endures the same sacrifices, and closing DODEA schools will add undeserved stress. We cannot ignore the needs of military dependents by giving up responsibility of DODEA schools just to save a few bucks.

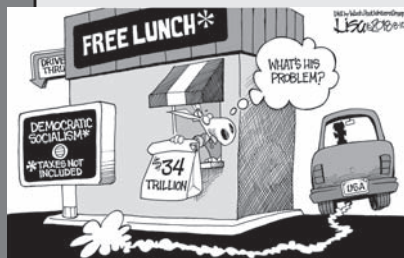
While dependents go to underfunded schools, no one is making a connection with students, teachers and local districts to make policies. Putting DODEA schools as a last priority was a catalyst for a budget that solely focused on war efforts. These children need to have the resources for a stable curricula, experienced faculty who understand their needs, and the ability to smoothly transfer into advanced courses, and should not have to raise money for extracurricular activities.

As a nation, we can never repay our debt to our veterans, but we can seek legislation that ensures these children are taken care of. This will drive our great nation forward and crack the glass ceiling for further education reform.

Shazia Olivares is a senior political science major at the University of Kentucky and the daughter of a U.S. Marine.

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



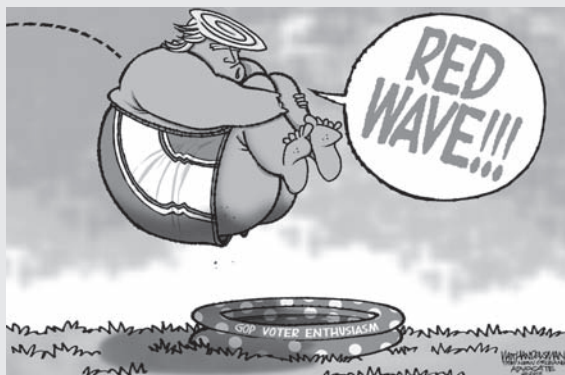
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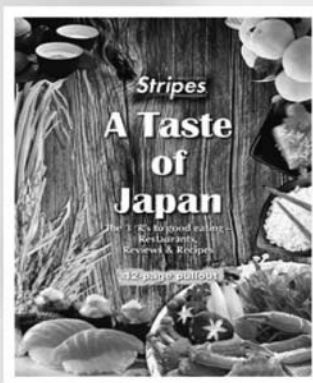
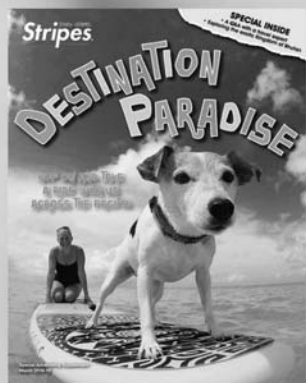


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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Ex-Michigan QB Speight starts fresh with UCLA

BY DAN GREENSPAN
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Wilton Speight does not fit the mold of the dual-threat quarterbacks Chip Kelly coached at Oregon.

In his three seasons at Michigan, the 6-foot-2, 232-pound Speight's longest run was a 17-yard scamper in the 2016 Orange Bowl.

But in joining UCLA for his final season of eligibility, Speight trusts Kelly to show the same offensive flexibility he did in coaching the Philadelphia Eagles should the graduate transfer win the starting job.

"That's obviously been a big question mark for I'm assuming a lot of people coming from a pro-style offense at Michigan, but he and I talked a lot about how he ran things with Nick Foles, Sam Bradford, Mark Sanchez, the success he had with those guys that could move but weren't necessarily dual-threat," Speight said. "When I saw the success that they had and the things that he would tweak for those guys, I saw myself doing the same things."

Kelly made his name having the Ducks operate a high-tempo, read-option offense, but adapted his system for pocket passers in the NFL. Foles threw 27 touchdown passes with two interceptions in Kelly's first season in Philadelphia, though the efficiency and explosiveness of the offense dropped off in his next two seasons with the Eagles and one season with the San Francisco 49ers.

Speight showed he could distribute the ball effectively in 2016, when he threw for 2,538 yards and 18 touchdown passes against seven interceptions for the Wolverines. However, he made just four starts last season before fracturing his tibia in his back against Purdue in September.

Michigan added Ole Miss transfer Shea Patterson in December, prompting Speight to move on after earning his degree.

"Obviously, this is my last year. This is my last shot to show what I can do to get to the next level, and that's ultimately what it came down to," Speight said.

Speight spent the winter training in Orange County, where he worked out alongside Sanchez. Sanchez played for Kelly in Philadelphia in 2014-15 and vouched for him as an offensive mind, one of the factors leading Speight to choose UCLA over the Tigers and Cowboys.

"Before I made my decision, Mark and I talked a lot about what made sense, and that helped a lot," Speight said. "Back to full health and feeling better than he did going into last season, Speight has quickly adjusted to his new environment. Redshirt freshman Austin Burton said Speight has emerged as "the dad" of the quarterbacks with his wealth of experience after making 16 starts at Michigan.

"He hopped right into the quarterback group and he's our best friend," redshirt senior Martyn Lyons said. "It's hard for someone new like that to jump in and be so close with the quarterback room and the whole team, and he fit in right away, so that's good."

Even if he doesn't get the nod, Speight is enjoying the opportunity he has at UCLA.

"Just to be back out on the football field with everything that happened last year, wasn't really sure if that was going to happen, and now that it's happening and the ball is rolling, it's special."



WADE PAYNE/AP

South Carolina head coach Will Muschamp, right, checks on running back Rico Dowdle after he was injured in a game against Tennessee last October. Player privacy laws currently stand in the way of regular in-depth NCAA football injury reports.

Injury reports face high hurdle

Player privacy in the way of medical transparency desired in gambling

BY TERRIN WAACK
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Indiana safety Jonathan Crawford is very clear about what he thinks of colleges releasing information on player injuries.

"No," he said. "Especially if I have no say in it, I wouldn't want my personal business out there."

The U.S. Supreme Court's decision that allows states to legalize sports gambling has sparked a debate about requiring injury reports in college football, a sport that hasn't had unified rules. NCAA leaders are analyzing whether it's possible to have more medical transparency to prevent collusion and be more consistent among hundreds of teams balancing the rules of various universities, conferences and state and federal laws.

No formal plans have been proposed as legal experts and compliance officers analyze an issue that's more complicated for college football than the NFL, which has a mandated reporting system. A similar system of regular in-depth reports in the NCAA would have the hurdle of privacy for younger athletes. New rules likely won't come soon — the new season starts in three weeks and just four states have officially legalized sports gambling.

Privacy laws such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protect players against the release of personal information without the consent of players or their parents if the player is under 18. HIPAA protects medical records. FERPA protects educational records, along with medical records if treatment is given on behalf of a university.

At least some players and coaches want that privacy to stay in place.

"I coached in the NFL for nine years and

there is a stark difference between working with professionals and working with college kids," Stanford coach David Shaw said. "I do not feel right giving out medical information of a 19-year-old. I think it's wrong in any way, shape or form."

Still, commissioners from the Power Five conferences generally believe some kind of uniform injury reporting is inevitable, even if the details still need to be worked out.

Players consent to NFL injury reports as a condition of employment. Three practice participation reports are required every game week, along with game status reports and in-game updates.

Right now, there is no standard in the NCAA for discussing player injuries.

"My university's attorney told me, 'You cannot be specific with any injuries. You can say upper body. You can say lower body,'" said Todd Berry, who coached college football for 34 years and is now executive director of the American Football Coaches Association. "Many times the media would already know what it was, but that's all I could reference."

Some coaches are more specific. Others are reluctant to share anything at all.

Washington State's Mike Leach has a history of not even answering questions after a game about a player who was injured on the field. Chip Kelly also never talked about injuries while at Oregon — he's now at UCLA — and eventually neither did his successor, Mark Helfrich, who's now in the NFL. Miami's Mark Richt used to be pretty open about injury updates but started to cut back because other coaches were withholding information.

Others are more forthcoming, like Joe Moorhead at Mississippi State and Duke's David Cutcliffe.

That inconsistency could potentially raise red flags as legal gambling grows throughout the United States. If one coach

reveals more than another, it opens up questions of whether it creates a chance for some gamblers to gain an unfair edge.

"When there's less info out there, you have a greater chance of having inside information," said Brad Powers, senior college football analyst for Pregame.com. "When there's more information, when everyone knows everything — like the NFL, you know exactly if a guy is probable, doubtful or questionable — then nobody really has any inside information."

Powers said bettors want a common language across the conferences. Coaches also want consistency, Berry said.

That could mean only releasing a player's status for the game — an availability report, which may be the safest option. Or injuries could be defined as lower or upper body only.

"The more specific you get, the greater the chance is that you will wander into an area that is protected by one or both of those statutes (HIPAA and FERPA)," said attorney William H. Brooks, who works in the NCAA compliance and investigations group for his firm, Lightfoot, Franklin & White L.L.C.

"Now," he added, "if someone gets hurt on the field in front of 90,000 people and you see what happened, then obviously everybody knows what the injury is. But coaches don't elaborate on the treatment, how the player is doing other than he or she is progressing."

Berry said an argument can be made that no injury information should be released if institutions really want to protect the privacy of student athletes.

"We're going to show up and play Saturday — or whatever day it is — and who I put out there is who we're playing," he said. "Although, that wouldn't make it much fun for the gamblers or for the media."

AP Sports Writer Aaron Beard and AP freelancer Scott Held contributed to this report.

AUTO RACING

Harvick earns NASCAR-high 7th win of year

By LARRY LAGE
Associated Press

BROOKLYN, Mich. — Kevin Harvick capped off his father-son weekend by dominating a race and putting 6-year-old son Keelan in the passenger seat to hold the flapping, checkered flag out of the window.

"That was definitely way up there on the bucket list," Harvick said.

Harvick broke a tie atop NASCAR's Big 3 by easily winning at Michigan International Speedway for his Cup-high seventh victory of the season.

His No. 4 Ford finished 3-plus seconds ahead of Brad Keselowski's No. 2 Ford on Sunday in the Consumers Energy 400.

Points leader Kyle Busch finished third in his No. 18 Toyota — more than 4 seconds behind Harvick.

"I was front of him for about 5 laps," Busch joked.

Busch has won six races this year and Martin Truex Jr. has won four times. The rest of the field has combined to win just six of 23 races.

Truex Jr., the third driver in NASCAR's Big 3 with Harvick and Busch, was 14th in the 40-car field in his No. 78 Toyota.

Keselowski said he couldn't be more aggressive late in the 200-lap race because Harvick was simply so far ahead.

Austin Dillon, in the No. 3 Chevrolet, was fourth followed by Ryan Blaney's No. 12 Ford.

Denny Hamlin led the field to the green flag for the second straight week, but his No. 11 Toyota could not stay ahead. He ended up eighth at MIS after finishing 13th in last week's race at Watkins Glen.

Who's hot: Harvick won each of three stages and led 108 laps, more than four times more than anyone else on the 2-mile oval. His seven victories have helped Ford earn 10 Cup victories, matching its total from last year and pulling within one of Toyota's total.

Who's not: Jimmie Johnson has not finished better than 10th in his last nine races and sits 14th in the standings. The seven-time Cup champion was running in the top 15 late in the race when a loose wheel led to an unscheduled



PAUL SANCIA/AP

Kevin Harvick's son, Keelan, holds the winner's flag while riding with his father after the NASCAR Cup Series race at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Mich., on Sunday.

pit stop and a 28th-place finish a week after he was 30th at Watkins Glen.

Rough day: Truex was running with the leaders during the second stage before running out of gas and going into the pits, which were closed. He also was penalized for an uncontrollable tire and pushed to the back of the 40-car field.

Soon after a restart early in the race, rookie William Byron's No. 24 Chevrolet got loose and made side-by-side contact with Truex to bring out another caution flag.

"Anything that could have went wrong did," Truex said. "We got wrecked by a rookie mistake underneath us, and then ran out of

gas. We could've won the second stage. We just didn't have enough gas. The car was fast. We just couldn't catch a break all day."

Close Kes: Keselowski, who is from suburban Detroit, is still desperately seeking his first win in Michigan. The Penske Racing driver finished second in a Cup race for the second time at MIS, where he also has a trio of third-place finishes in 19 career starts.

"The last three weeks we've had some big struggles," Keselowski said. "It's nice to be able to have a mostly clean race and get the finish we deserve."

"We want to break through and win (here). We're not where we need to be."

Dixon signs extension with Ganassi

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — IndyCar Series leader Scott Dixon has signed a contract extension with Chip Ganassi that will likely take the four-time champion through the end of his career.

The extension announced Monday puts Dixon behind the wheel of the PNC Bank-sponsored entry and ends speculation he'd leave Ganassi after 17 seasons to join Fernando Alonso on a new McLaren team. The McLaren entry has not been announced, but Dixon was among the top IndyCar drivers who had been tar-

getted to team with Alonso.

"I have always said I have a massive amount of respect for Chip and what he's done in this sport. This is not an easy business," Dixon said. "His résumé speaks for itself, and he's the type of team owner any driver would want to drive for."

Dixon's tenure is the longest of any Ganassi driver.

The New Zealand native has won the Indianapolis 500 and his 44 career victories trail only A.J. Foyt and Mario Andretti on the career win list. At 38, he's leading the series in pursuit of his fifth IndyCar title.

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MLB

Bote's slam in 9th lifts Cubs over Nationals

By ANDREW SELIGMAN

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The celebration was under way by the time David Bote flung his helmet high into the air on his way home.

Teammates were already jumping up and down, ready to mob him at the plate. The fans were in a frenzy, too.

Nothing like a game-ending grand slam to get the festivities started.

A pinch-hitting Bote smashed one against Ryan Madson with two outs in the ninth inning to lift the Chicago Cubs to a 4-3 victory over the Washington Nationals on Sunday night.

Bote's long drive to center field came after dominant starts by Washington's Max Scherzer and Chicago's Cole Hamels.

Madson (2-5) entered with a 3-0 lead to start the ninth and quickly ran into trouble.

He gave up an infield single to Jason Heyward with one out and hit Albert Almora with a pitch. Madson then retired Kyle Schwarber on a foul pop before hitting Willson Contreras to lead the bases.

With a 2-2 count, Bote drove a knee-high fastball well beyond the center-field wall, setting off quite a scene.

Teammates ripped off his jersey at the plate. He also had a cooler emptied on him as he gave an interview on the field while fans chanted "Bote! Bote!"

"It's magical," he said. "It's incredible. It's an unbelievable feeling. It couldn't hap-

pen to a better team, a better group of people in that clubhouse. And I'm so blessed and honored to be part of it."

There was more after he finished his postgame interview with reporters. As he walked back into the clubhouse, he got a quick hug from noted Cubs fan Bill Murray, who asked, "Is this the hero?"

Bote has made quite an impression while bouncing back and forth between the minors as a rookie. He is batting .329 with three homers in 34 games for the Cubs, with Kris Bryant battling injuries this season.

His big slam helped Chicago take two of three in the first meeting between these teams since the Cubs beat Washington in the NL Division Series. It also made a winner of Justin Wilson (4-3), who got the final two outs in the ninth.

Madson said a recurring back issue flared up when he was warming up, causing pain going down his right leg.

"Sometimes it will shoot, sometimes it won't," he said. "That's really the truth of the matter. Just trying to fight through it. Not everybody feels 100 percent all the time, but this one's pretty big. So I'll lose basically position, control over the ball."

Scherzer tossed three-hit ball for seven innings. The three-time Cy Young Award winner struck out 11 and walked one.

But the Nationals managed just three hits — one off Hamels. He gave up one run in seven innings, struck out nine and walked one in his third start since Chicago



NAM Y. HUN/AP

The Cubs' David Bote reacts as he rounds the bases after hitting the game-winning grand slam against the Washington Nationals during the ninth inning on Sunday.

acquired him from Texas.

The only hit he allowed was Daniel Murphy's single in the second to two runners on first and third. Mark Reynolds then drove

in Ryan Zimmerman with a sacrifice fly.

The Nationals did not get another hit until Trea Turner tripled against Brandon Kintzler, sparking a two-run ninth.

Roundup

Iannetta brings in Rockies' winning run on walk

Associated Press

DENVER — Chris Iannetta flung the bat aside as if he got all of the pitch.

In a way, he did — a walk's just as good as a hit, especially with the bases loaded in the ninth.

Iannetta brought in the winning run by drawing a five-pitch walk, and the Colorado Rockies beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 4-3 after squandering a late lead Sunday.

"I like my chances against a guy in that situation — someone with their back against the wall and has to make pitches over the plate," the Rockies catcher said.

It was the second walk-off win in as many days for Colorado. Ryan McMahon lined a three-run homer in the ninth on Saturday.

DJ LeMahieu led off the ninth with a single to right that Yasiel Puig misplayed, allowing LeMahieu to take second. After David Dahl was intentionally walked with one out, Ian Desmond grounded out. McMahon was also walked to lead the bases.

"I don't get the job done and we go to the next inning. It's not live or die," Iannetta said of the pressure situation. "If he doesn't get the job done, the game's over."

The Rockies took three of four for their first home series win against the Dodgers since April 7-9, 2017.

It was the third straight game a Dodgers bullpen went out Kenley Jansen — who's sidelined with an irregular heartbeat — was tagged



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

The Rockies' Chris Iannetta tosses his bat after drawing a walk from Dodgers reliever Dylan Floro to force in the winning run.

with the loss.

Red Sox 4, Orioles 1: Chris Sale celebrated his return from the disabled list by striking out 12 in five dominant innings, and visiting Boston moved 50 games over .500 by completing a sweep of lowly Baltimore.

Sale (12-4) was placed on the DL on July 28 with left shoulder inflammation. The left-hander allowed just one hit, a clean third-inning single to left field by Renato Nunez, and walked none.

Mariners 4, Astros 3 (10): Ryan Healy hit a tying homer with two outs in the ninth inning, Mitch Haniger delivered an RBI double in the 10th and visiting Seattle swept a four-game series from AL West-leading Houston.

It's the first time in franchise history that Seattle swept a four-

game series from Houston. The third-place Mariners pulled within in four games of the Astros.

Yankees 7, Rangers 2: CC Sabathia threw six shutout innings, Giancarlo Stanton homered again and host New York won for the sixth time in seven games.

Didi Gregorius also homered and turned in a nifty defensive play for New York. Sabathia (7-4) allowed one hit in his first win since July 4.

Cardinals 8, Royals 2: Yadier Molina hit a tiebreaking two-run single in the seventh inning, and visiting St. Louis matched a season high with its fifth consecutive win.

The Cardinals moved eight games above .500, equaling their season high set on June 11, and improved to a National League-

best 12-4 since July 27.

Braves 8, Brewers 7: Ozzie Albies led off the seventh inning with a tiebreaking homer, one of three for host Atlanta, and the Braves overcame 19 hits by Milwaukee.

Ronald Acuna Jr. and Dansby Swanson each hit a two-run homer for Atlanta, which took two of three in a matchup of playoff contenders.

Jesus Aguilar hit a three-run homer and drove in four runs for Milwaukee. The Brewers left 13 runners on base.

Athletics 8, Angels 7: Jed Lowrie homered and moved over 1,000 hits for his career, and visiting Oakland held on for its ninth win in 11 games.

The A's, who currently occupy the second AL wild-card spot, moved within 2½ games of first-place Houston in the AL West.

Diamondbacks 9, Reds 2: At Cincinnati, Paul Goldschmidt hit two of Arizona's five homers, and the Diamondbacks avoided a sweep.

Daniel Descalso, Eduardo Escobar and David Peralta also connected for Arizona.

Padres 9, Phillies 3: Freddy Garcia hit a grand slam and Travis Jankowski stole four bases and scored three times for host San Diego.

Last-place San Diego won for the fifth time in seven games, including two of three against NL East-leading Philadelphia.

Indians 9, White Sox 7: Carlos Carrasco struck out nine in seven

innings, and twisting Cleveland held on for the win.

The Indians had a 9-1 lead heading into the bottom of the eighth, and almost blew it. Run-scoring singles by Tim Anderson and Kevan Smith trimmed the Indians' lead to 9-5 in the ninth. Adam Engelt greeted Cody Allen with a two-run triple before the closer struck out Nicky Delmonico and Yolmer Sanchez for his 23rd save in 26 chances.

Giants 4, Pirates 3: Dereck Rodriguez pitched seven innings of two-hit ball for host San Francisco, continuing his sparkling rookie season.

Rodriguez (6-1) allowed one run, struck out four and walked one. Nick Hundley and Joe Panik each drove in two runs for the Giants, and Gorkys Hernandez scored twice.

Tigers 4, Twins 2: Matthew Boyd pitched six strong innings and Detroit won on Jack Morris Day at Comerica Park.

The game started 20 minutes late because of the ceremony to retire Morris' No. 47 jersey. Morris and longtime teammate Alan Trammell were inducted into the Hall of Fame earlier this month.

Mets 4, Marlins 3: Jose Reyes hit a two-run homer and Noah Syndergaard struck out seven in seven innings, leading visiting New York to the victory.

Blue Jays 2, Rays 1: Kevin Pillar scored the tiebreaking run on an infield grounder in the sixth inning, helping host Toronto avert a three-game series sweep.

SPORTS BRIEFS/PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Briefly

Ryder Cup captain Furyk won't tip hand on Woods

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS—The upside to Jim Furyk finishing so early at the PGA Championship was being able to watch the final round on television, partly as a player but mostly as the Ryder Cup captain.

And that meant seeing plenty of Tiger Woods.

"I really wanted to see kind of how Tiger was playing and I only got to see ... I don't know, like every shot he hit for the rest of the day," Furyk said Monday with a laugh. "It was great theater, really."

Ultimately, nothing really changed.

Woods was as dynamic as he has been all year, shot 6-under 64 for the lowest final round of his career in the majors, had his lowest 72-hole score in the majors, captivated one of the largest and loudest galleries in golf and was runner-up to Brooks Koepka by two shots.

He's a threat at majors or anywhere else. He gets attention inside and outside the ropes.

As for the Ryder Cup, Furyk ended up with the same eight players who started the week atop the U.S. standings.

The PGA Championship was the final event for eight players to earn automatic spots. Furyk will choose three captain's picks next month after the second FedEx Cup playoff event, with the last pick Sept. 10 after the third playoff.

Koepka, who won three of the eight majors during the qualifying period, overtook Dustin Johnson to lead the points list, and the next six players stayed the same—Justin Thomas, Patrick Reed, Bubba Watson, Jordan Spieth, Rickie Fowler and Webb Simpson.

Woods, who started the year with zero points, moved from No. 20 to No. 11 on the strength of his tie for sixth at the British Open, where he briefly led during the final round, and his runner-up at Bellverie.

Furyk was not willing to say what appears certain for everyone else: Woods will be in France with golf clubs for the Sept. 28-30 matches.

"We want the players who are going to help us be successful," Furyk said. "He's playing very well. I think there's a lot of folks out there who probably think he can help us. Really, what we wanted to talk about today was the top eight players. I realize Tiger is a story. I realize he's playing very well, and I'm excited to see that."

Woods was appointed a vice captain in late February, and he has said he would like to serve two roles. He also said that when he was appointed a vice captain for the Presidents Cup for the 2017 matches, and no one took him that seriously.



JERRY HOLT, STAR TRIBUNE/AP

Lindsay Whalen announced she'll retire at the end of the season after 15 years in the WNBA. Whalen has been balancing a new job as coach of the University of Minnesota with playing point for the Minnesota Lynx.

They do now, and Woods made it clear he wants to compete in his first Ryder Cup since 2012.

"I do want to be there as a player," he said Sunday. "Our captain has some decisions to make. We'll all sit down and give him our input, who can contribute. Hopefully, my name will be part of that process."

Lynx star Whalen retiring from WNBA

MINNEAPOLIS—Minnesota Lynx star Lindsay Whalen says she'll retire at the end of the season.

Whalen has been balancing a new job as coach of the University of Minnesota Gophers with playing point for the Lynx. Her retirement will end a 15-year career that includes four championships with the Lynx, where the former Gopher star returned in 2010 after beginning her WNBA career in Connecticut.

WNBA President Lisa Borders says Whalen would be remembered "as one of the greatest players and winners" in the history of the league.

The gritty guard will finish her career as the Lynx leader in assists and fourth-leading scorer.

The 36-year-old Whalen is a two-time Olympic gold medalist. She led the Gophers to their only Final Four in 2004.

Wings fire Williams with playoffs in jeopardy

ARLINGTON, Texas—Dallas Wings coach Fred Williams was relieved of his duties Sunday with the club mired in an eight-game losing streak that jeopardized

a playoff spot that once seemed secure.

Team President and CEO Greg Bibb announced his decision several hours after a 93-80 road loss to Washington. Assistant Taj McWilliams-Franklin was named interim coach. The Wings (14-17) have a one-game lead over Las Vegas for the WNBA's final playoff spot with three games remaining.

Bibb said the club will look for a new coach after the season.

Nadal spoils return of Big Four in Cincinnati

MASON, Ohio—Rafael Nadal dropped out of the Western & Southern Open on Sunday night, scuttling a reunion of the "Big Four."

Nadal withdrew a few hours after he won his fifth title of the year in Toronto, beating Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-2, 7-6 (4). Instead of playing more grueling matches in Cincinnati, he'll take a week to get some rest and get ready for the U.S. Open.

"No other reason than personally taking care of my body and trying to keep as healthy as I feel now," Nadal said in a statement.

And so the "Big Four" reunion will have to wait for at least a few more weeks: Nadal, Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray haven't played in the same tournament in more than a year. With Nadal's withdrawal, Federer becomes the top player in the men's bracket in Cincinnati.

Jaguars suspend Fowler, Ramsey for behavior

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—The Jacksonville Jaguars suspended All-Pro cornerback Jalen Ramsey and defensive end Dante Fowler on Sunday for violating team rules and conduct unbecoming a Jaguars football player.

Neither one will make the trip to Minnesota on Tuesday for two days of joint practices and a preseason game. The teams play Saturday.

Fowler was involved in several fights Sunday, including one after practice with fellow defensive end Yannick Ngakoue. Ramsey shouted profanities at media members who captured the altercation on video and later threatened reporters with "war" for releasing the video. Ramsey made his threat via Twitter.

The team released a one-sentence statement Sunday evening announcing the suspensions. Coach Doug Marrone is expected to address the decision Tuesday.

The suspension is the latest issue for Fowler, whose checkered past includes two arrests.



JEFF ROBERSON/AP

Adam Scott tees off on the third hole during the final round of the PGA Championship on Sunday in St. Louis.

Scott proves he's still major threat

By DAVE SKRETTA

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS—Adam Scott was poised to pull off a successful sneak attack at the PGA Championship on Sunday, quietly hanging around the top of the leaderboard while all the attention was elsewhere.

Mostly on Brooks Koepka and Tiger Woods.

Those two kept trading body blows across the front nine at Bellverie Country Club, the roars that Woods was eliciting ahead filtering back to the final group. But after a slow start to his round, including a bogey at the first, Scott proved he had a little fight left. He embarked on a birdie march and briefly pulled into a tie with Koepka.

"I knew what I was up against," Koepka said later, "and Scotty played unbelievably well."

Just not quite well enough.

He missed a couple of birdie chances after forging that tie, and a bogey at 18 left him with a final round 67. His 13-under total was good for third place, one back of Woods and three off the pace.

"This was some really good golf this week," Scott said with an odd mixture of contentment and disappointment. "It's hard to rationalize everything after leading with four holes to play. You want to win in that position. I feel like I've led a lot of majors with four holes to play and not won them. But shooting 70-65-65-67 is good golf at a major championship."

Scott played all week wearing a yellow ribbon on his hat to honor Jared Lyle, the PGA Tour player who died Wednesday after a return of cancer. Fans would occasionally shout his name as Scott walked by Sunday, ensuring his good friend and fellow Aussie was never far from his mind.

"For the people that knew him quite well that were playing this week, golf was probably a little distraction," he said. "But probably now as we get some time off and get to go home and be with our family, we'll be able to celebrate him a little bit more."

Scott will be able to enjoy some newfound confidence, too.

The former Masters champion hasn't won since 2016, his game

having fallen apart so mightily that his chances of keeping his PGA Tour playing privileges were in doubt just weeks ago.

He had churned through swing coaches, struggled to adapt to the ban on long putters, and perhaps worse than anything, had lost the mental edge that had carried him to the world's No. 1 ranking.

Yet there he was on Sunday of a major championship, right in the hunt—with Woods, no less. It was almost as if someone had hit the rewind button on the last few years.

"It's not like I forgot what to do playing in the final group of a major," Scott said.

His charge to the top of the leaderboard Sunday began with back-to-back birdies on the front nine and another at the brutally tough par-4 10th. He missed a good chance for birdie at the drivable par-4 11th, but bounced back with two more birdies to put pressure on the contenders.

It wasn't until Scott missed a crucial birdie putt at the par-5 17th, which leaked away just as it reached the hole, that his hopes of winning his second major championship began to fade.

"I got off to a really slow start, so I was not super-comfortable early in the round," Scott said. "I was not hitting the best shots but I scrambled where I needed to. I made a good par putt at the sixth, then birdie-birdie, and that really calmed me down a lot."

He kept his calm despite the roars that were coming from Woods up ahead.

"That was certainly filtering back through the groups," Scott said. "Every leaderboard change no matter what hole you were on, you knew what Tiger did."

It was almost too late before anybody paid attention to what Scott was doing.

"That's better than the last couple of years, for sure," he said. "I don't think it'll be rocket science to figure out the small little bits that are missing, and if anything this is motivation to make the most of this year. Keep playing at this level and go into next year playing with confidence. I didn't really start that way this year. That would be a good way to start."

PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Scoreboard

Sunday

At Bellverie CC

St. Louis

Purses \$11 million

Yardage 7,316; Par: 70

Final	
B. Koepka, \$1,980,000	69-63-66-66=264 -16
Tiger Woods, \$1,080,000	70-66-64=266 -14
Adam Scott, \$748,000	70-65-67=267 -13
Stewart Cink, \$489,250	67-69-67=269 -11
Jon Rahm, \$485,250	68-67-68=269 -11
F. Molinari, \$334,713	67-67-68=270 -10
T. Plesner, \$334,713	67-66-71=270 -10
Justin Thomas, \$334,713	69-65-68=270 -10
G. Woodland, \$324,713	64-66-71=270 -10
S. Calzavara, \$261,985	70-68-69=271 -9
Tyrell Hatfield, \$261,985	71-67-69=271 -9
Daniel Berger, \$187,747	67-65-68=272 -8
Justin Fowler, \$187,747	65-67-69=272 -8
Kevin Kisner, \$187,747	67-64-72=272 -8
Shane Lowery, \$187,747	69-64-70=272 -8
Cheez Reavie, \$187,747	71-68-67=272 -8
Jordan Spieth, \$187,747	71-69-69=272 -8
Brandon Stone, \$187,747	66-68-70=272 -8
Jason Day, \$113,125	67-68-67=273 -7
Zach Johnson, \$113,125	66-70-71=273 -7
Kevin Na, \$113,125	70-69-68=273 -7
Justin Rose, \$113,125	69-69-68=273 -7
M. Simpson, \$113,125	68-68-69=273 -7
Julian S. Smith, \$113,125	69-68-66=273 -7
Matt Wallace, \$113,125	71-66-68=273 -7
Patrick Cantlay, \$76,000	66-70-70=274 -6
Ryan Fox, \$76,000	70-68-68=274 -6
Brandan Grace, \$76,000	68-68-78=274 -6
Dustin Johnson, \$76,000	67-66-72=274 -6
Dylan Fritzel, \$63,500	73-67-67=275 -5
Emiliano Riggi, \$63,500	69-67-69=275 -5
Chris Kirk, \$63,500	69-70-68=275 -5
Jon Poulter, \$63,500	67-70-68=275 -5
T. Fleetwood, \$48,429	69-70-68=276 -4
Billy Horschel, \$48,429	68-69-70=276 -4
Russell Knox, \$48,429	71-68-69=276 -4
R. Matsuyama, \$48,429	68-69-73=276 -4
Pat Perez, \$48,429	67-67-70=276 -4
S. Schafer, \$48,429	70-67-72=276 -4
J. Spaul, \$48,429	69-68-72=276 -4
Keegan Bradley, \$33,281	71-69-67=277 -3
Tony Finau, \$33,281	74-66-69=277 -3
Sungjae Im, \$33,281	71-67-71=277 -3
Ben Kern, \$33,281	69-69-70=277 -3
Ben Kravitz, \$33,281	71-69-67=277 -3
B. Sneedaker, \$33,281	72-67-69=277 -3
Jimmy Walker, \$33,281	69-70-70=277 -3
Austin Cook, \$24,833	67-72-69=278 -2
Brice Garnier, \$24,833	71-68-69=278 -2
Seamus Power, \$24,833	71-68-69=278 -2
Nick Watney, \$24,833	74-65-71=278 -2
Rory McIlroy, \$24,833	70-67-71=278 -2
Byeong Hun An, \$22,567	70-69-70=279 -1
Thoren, \$22,567	70-69-70=279 -1
Cameron Smith, \$22,567	74-66-73=279 -1
Scottie Scheffler, \$22,567	71-68-72=279 -1
E. Ryan Moore, \$21,317	69-70-78=280 -E
Patrick Reed, \$21,317	69-70-78=280 -E
Andrew Putnam, \$21,317	69-72-71=280 -E
O. Schmiedinger, \$21,317	67-71-72=280 -E
Adam Long, \$21,317	70-70-70=281 -E
Kevin Chappell, \$20,100	71-68-73=281 -E
Adam Long, \$20,100	71-68-73=281 -E
Yuta Ikeda, \$20,100	68-69-71=281 -E
Adam Long, \$20,100	71-68-73=281 -E
Adrian Olszapski, \$20,100	73-67-69=281 -E
Chris Stroud, \$20,100	72-67-76=281 -E
Jim Furyk, \$19,200	74-72-71=282 -E
Brian Hartman, \$19,200	72-68-71=282 -E
Nick Watney, \$19,200	74-72-71=282 -E
M. Leishman, \$19,200	71-68-72=282 -E
T. Niemi, \$19,200	74-72-71=282 -E
T. Potter, Jr., \$19,200	74-66-74=282 -E
Nick Watney, \$19,200	75-65-70=282 -E
Scottie Scheffler, \$19,200	74-72-71=282 -E
Brian Gay, \$18,700	73-73-75=287 -9
Scott Brown, \$18,600	72-68-74=289 -9

Woods electrifies St. Louis crowd

By EDDIE PELLIS

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The ball rested on the edge of the cup, its logo peeking into the hole for what felt like forever.

Back in the day, that ball dropped for Tiger Woods.

On Sunday, it would be budge.

Yes, Woods finished second with two strokes to Brooks Koepka at the PGA Championship to extend his drought without a major for at least eight more months. But after the scrambling, club-slaming, fist-pumping, electrifying show he put on over a round of 6-under 64 — his best closing round at a major — who can argue that golf isn't more fun when Tiger's in the mix?

"There's nothing like it," said Gary Woodland, who was in the twosome with the world's best-known player. "The energy in that place was unbelievable."

Even after the excruciating miss on No. 11 — one that looked a lot like his teetering, toppling chip on No. 16 at the Masters in 2005, except that one went in — Woods would not quit.

Shortly after 5 p.m., he had a 20-foot putt on the 16th green that would've tied him with Koepka, who was two holes behind but may as well have been playing on another course compared to the frenzy in front of him.

That putt just sat just.

And Woods' last chance to apply real pressure vanished when he pushed his tie shot on the par-5 17th right of the creek running along the right side of the hole.

Woods slammed the head of his driver to the ground, then swung it violently in frustration. He scrambled to make par, but by the time he reached the 18th fairway, he was three back of Koepka, who birdied 15 and 16 behind him.

On No. 18, Woods offered one



BRYNN ANDERSON/AP

Tiger Woods reacts to sinking a birdie putt on the ninth green during the final round of the PGA Championship on Sunday in St. Louis. He shot 64, his best closing round at a major.

final flourish. He drained his long-stem putt of the tournament, a 19-footer for birdie, and pumped his fist to celebrate.

Back in the day, that fist pump on the 18th green would've been to celebrate a win.

On this day, he was celebrating the grind — and the fact that he simply would not go away.

"I played hard," he said after finishing at 14-under 266. "A bit of a struggle with my game today, but I hung in there."

In many ways, this felt like old times for the 42-year-old — he of the multiple back surgeries who couldn't swing a club 11 months ago, but has now contended on the

back nine in consecutive majors, only to come up short, more agonizingly so this time than at Carnoustie three weeks ago.

Did he worry that a day like this might not ever come again? "Oh, God, I didn't even know if I was going to play golf again, so yeah," he said.

That Woods was still in contention after his first nine holes Sunday was a testament to the sort of resilience he can show, not only over the long haul, but over the ups-and-downs of a pressure-packed round.

He had a two-way miss going with his long clubs on the driving range, then came out to the course

and missed all seven fairways on the front nine. And yet, he scrambled. And needed a grand total of 10 putts on nine holes to make the turn at 3-under 32.

As the putts kept dropping, the roars got louder.

"The first real Tiger effect I've experienced, with that many people," said defending champion Justin Thomas, who played two groups ahead and finished tied for sixth.

In the search for two shots that could've made the difference, one could point to the bad drive on 10, the agonizing miss on 11 or a 12-foot putt to save par that went half-way in but rimmed out on No. 14 and briefly halted his momentum.

Or go back to Thursday, when a bogey and double bogey on his first two holes nearly ended his tournament before it really began.

But he was there on Sunday, getting stronger as the day went on, and making it very difficult for Jim Furyk not to pick him for the Ryder Cup team in a few weeks.

Though he closes 2018 still without a major title since the 2008 U.S. Open, it's hard, after a performance like this, to think the drought can last forever. His major finishes this year: 32nd at the Masters, cut in the U.S. Open, tied for sixth at the British Open, and now, second at the PGA.

His ranking has jumped from 655 to start the year to 26 heading out of Bellverie.

Woods has never been someone who was satisfied with second. But he hadn't he didn't win this good at a tournament he didn't win in a long time.

"I had to kind of figure this out on my own and it's been really hard — a lot harder than people think," he said. "And I'm just very pleased at what I've done so far — going from where I've come from, to now over the last year, it's been pretty cool."

Role: Koepka keeps attacking to hold off Tiger, Scott with record 264

FROM BACK PAGE

And yet it still felt — and certainly sounded — as though he played second billing to Woods.

The crowd was enormous, louder than anything in golf this side of Augusta National, and Tiger, Koepka and Woods looked calmer than ever to capping his comeback from four back surgeries with another major.

Even with two bogeys, Woods shot 64 for his lowest final round in a major. He finished at 266, beating by three shots his best 72-hole score in a major.

At this major, it wasn't enough. "I played hard," Woods said. "I made a big putt there. It looks like I'm going to come up a little short."

Koepka was responsible for that.

After wasting one chance to put it away by missing consecutive birdie chances from 7 feet, Koepka kept attacking flags and ran in birdie putts of 10 feet on No. 15 and 7 feet on No. 16 to end the drama. He tapped in for par on the final hole to set the PGA Championship scoring record at 264. It also set the major championship record that Henrik Stenson set at the Royal Troon two years ago in the British Open.

He also joined Jordan Spieth, Woods, Nicklaus and Tom Watson as the only players with three majors before turning 30 since 1960.

"Three majors at 28 — it's a cool feeling," said Koepka, who five years ago was toiling in Europe's minor leagues.

Scott hung around by making big putts, just like he hoped, and was tied for the lead until Koepka's birdies. Scott missed a 6-foot birdie putt on the par-5 17th that would have pulled him to within one shot — right after Koepka missed from the same range — and then made bogey on the 18th for a 67 to finish alone in third.

The only knock on Koepka is that he doesn't win enough elsewhere — the Phoenix Open on the PGA Tour, the Turkish Airlines Open on the European Tour, and two victories at the Dunlop Phoenix on the Japan Golf Tour.

"He's won three majors now, so he's definitely winning the right ones," Scott said. "If I was him, I wouldn't change much at the moment. I'd just keep doing what he's doing because he's showing up at the right moments in the biggest events. There's something inside his brain that makes him

believe that that's what he's destined to do."

The St. Louis fans waited 17 years to see Woods — he last was at Bellverie when the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks canceled a World Golf Championship — and he delivered a performance that took golf back in time.

Thomas Bjorn might have seen it coming. Earlier in the week, as he was cleaning out his locker after withdrawing with an injury, he thought back to Woods getting into contention at Carnoustie last month at the British Open. "He recognized who that guy was that day," Bjorn said.

Woods was relentless, pumping fists, raising the putter in his left hand, making birdies and charging toward a finish that caused pure pandemonium among one of the largest and noisiest crowds at a major.

Without hitting a fairway on the front nine, Woods cut the four-shot deficit to two.

Dialed in on the back nine, he dropped an approach into 4 feet on No. 12, got within one shot with a 10-foot birdie on the par-3 13th and, after a bad drive led to bogey, he answered with another approach that hit a foot from the hole.

That was as good as it got.

Facing the most important drive of the day on the par-5 17th, Woods sent it sailing to the right and it embedded in a hazard along the bank of a creek. He did well to advance it, but had to save par from a bunker. Behind him, Koepka holed his two birdie putts.

Woods and Koepka played nine holes of a practice round Wednesday, and the 14-time major champion knew what he was up against.

"It's tough to beat when the guy hits it 340 down the middle," Woods said. "What he did at Shinnecock, just bombing it, and then he's coming back the same thing here. ... And when a guy's doing that and hitting it straight, and as good a putter as he is, it's tough to beat."

Koepka never imagined a year like this. He missed four months at the start of the year when a partially torn tendon in his left wrist, causing him to sit out the Masters. He outlasted good friend Dustin Johnson at Shinnecock Hills to become the first back-to-back U.S. Open champion in 29 years.

The only downer is having to wait eight months for the Masters.

SPORTS

**Bote slams Nats**Pinch-hitter spoils dominant start
by Scherzer » **MLB, Page 29**

PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Major roll

Koepka holds off fan-favorite Woods
to earn third Slam title in two yearsBy DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The roars were unlike anything Brooks Koepka had ever heard, and he knew exactly what they meant.

They got louder for each birdie by Tiger Woods that moved him closer to the lead Sunday in the PGA Championship, and Koepka could hear a ripple effect of noise. First, real time. Seconds later, another burst from patrons watching on TV in chalets. Then, distant cheers from every corner of Bellerive when the score was posted.

"We knew what was going on," he said. "It's pretty obvious when Tiger makes a birdie. Everybody on the golf course cheers for him."

Koepka knew exactly what to do.

Amid relentless pandemonium, Koepka ran off three straight birdies to end the front nine and seize control. When he was tied with Adam Scott through 14 holes, with Woods one shot behind, he delivered back-to-back birdies.

The last one was a laser of a 4-iron from 248 yards that settled 6 feet away, sending

him to a dream finish of a year that began with the 28-year-old Floridian wondering if a wrist injury that kept him out four months would ever allow him to compete again.

"That will probably go down as probably one of the best shots I've ever hit under pressure," he said.

He closed with a 4-under 66 for a two-shot victory over Woods and took his place among the elite in golf. Koepka became the fifth player to win the U.S. Open and PGA Championship in the same year, joining Woods, Jack Nicklaus, Ben Hogan and Gene Sarazen.

It will be impossible to overlook him now, not with the Wanamaker Trophy to go with his back-to-back U.S. Open titles. Koepka won two of the three majors he played this year, and three of his last six. Not since Woods won four in a row through the 2001 Masters has anyone won majors at such an alarming rate.

SEE ROLL ON PAGE 31**Inside:**

- Tiger roars into second with a 64, Page 31
- Scott proves he still has game, Page 30

Tiger Woods

BRYNN ANDERSON/AP

Brooks Koepka celebrates after making a birdie putt on the 16th green Sunday during the final round of the PGA Championship in St. Louis.

JEFF ROBERSON/AP

**Harvick wins Cup-best seventh race of year » Page 27**